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BLACKIE'S

COMPREHENSIVE

SCHOOL SERIES



FOURTH READER



$$(3987 \int \frac{276}{4})$$

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BLACKIE'S
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SERIES.

FOURTH READER.



LONDON:
BLACKIE & SON, 49 & 50 OLD BAILEY, E.C.
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1879.

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P R E F A C E.

THE special features in these Readers are: (1) They are progressive, comprehensive, and are written in language suitable to the minds of children; (2) They are carefully graduated and systematically arranged.

It is confidently hoped, that the subjects selected will be found such as will foster in the youthful mind a love of reading and a high moral tone of feeling and conduct. Kindness to animals is inculcated in a variety of illustrative instances, so as to strike the mind and impress the memory of the pupil.

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FOURTH READER.

TRAVELLING IN THE LAST CENTURY.

PART I.

1. We often hear people talk about the "good old days." But if in some respects they were good days, it is equally certain that in other respects we are now much better off. We know how easy it is for us to travel from town to town by the railway, or to cross the sea by steamer. We can send goods or small parcels to any part of the country with very little trouble.

2. But it was not always so. Only a hundred years ago things were very different. A few instances will prove this. In 1749 a coach was started to carry passengers from Birmingham to London, but it took three days to reach that city. It left Birmingham only once a week, on every Monday morning, and got back again on Saturday night. We can do this same journey now in six hours.

3. A few years later (1754) a coach ran between Manchester and London. It took four days and a half to complete the journey. This was thought to be so very quick that it was called a "flying coach."

4. A Prussian clergyman, travelling from Leicester to London in 1782, has given a most amusing account of the troubles and hardships of his journey. His seat on the *top of the coach* was so unsafe, that, as

it was scrambling up a hill, he got into the basket behind, which was put there to carry luggage. But when they began to go down hill he was beaten on



all sides by the shaking boxes and trunks. "Then," he says, "all the boxes began, as it were, to dance around me; everything in the basket appeared to be alive, and every moment I received such violent blows that I thought my last hour had come." He was glad to creep back, as soon as he could, to his old seat.

5. In 1789 the Prince of Wales, afterwards George the Fourth, was upset, as he was riding in his carriage from Wentworth House, near Sheffield, to London. The Prince's coach, when near Newark, was overturned by a cart in a narrow part of the road, and, rolling down a slope, was dashed to pieces. Strange to say, the Prince was not very much hurt.

6. An account is given of the way in which the merchants of Manchester carried on their business in the last century. One who made a large fortune, used to carry his own goods on pack-horses from town to town. He was thus absent from home for the greater part of the year, and performed all his journeys on horseback. He carried his money in his saddle-bags. He was exposed to all kinds of weather, and to the dangers of highway robbers, who abounded at that time. No private carriage was kept in Manchester until the year 1758.

7. In Scotland, matters were even worse. There were hardly any regular roads at all, and it was a difficult matter to go from one town to another, especially in winter. There were merely tracks across moors, and when one track became too deep, another was made by the side of the old one.

8. The first coach between Edinburgh and Glasgow commenced running in the year 1749, but it took two days for the journey of forty-four miles.

9. A carrier's cart took a fortnight to get from Selkirk to Edinburgh, a distance of thirty-eight miles. On the morning of the carrier's starting, the people of Selkirk would gather round him to wish him a safe return. In the winter the carrier did not attempt the journey.

10. We read of a nobleman travelling in his own carriage in 1760 through the south-western districts of Scotland. He was obliged to take with him a party of labourers to lift his carriage out of the ruts. But, after all, the carriage several times got fast, and when about three miles from a village called

Creetown, near Wigton, he had to send away the labourers, and spend the night with his family in the carriage.

11. In the Highlands of Scotland, after the Rebellion of 1715, several roads had been made by General Wade. In that year several Highland clans had risen in arms in order to place the son of James the Second upon his father's throne. After the Rebellion was put down, these roads were constructed, in order that large numbers of soldiers could be more easily brought into the remote parts of the country to prevent any future risings. But these were the only roads in those wild districts. Thus it was always difficult, and often impossible to get from place to place.

12. Our first great road-maker was a blind man, the son of very poor parents. His name was John Metcalf.¹

scrambling, getting on
with difficulty.

luggage, boxes, trunks, &c.

violent, forcible.

merchant, buyer and seller
of goods.

century, one hundred
years.

pack-horses, horses with
bags strapped on.

exposed, liable to.

constructed, made.

re-spects

jour-ney

cler-gy-man

mon-ey

rail-way

fly-ing

car-ri-age

dif-fi-cult

pas-sen-ger

trou-bles

for-tune

car-ri-er

What do people often talk about? When did the first coach commence to run from Birmingham to London? How long did it take to do the journey? In what time

¹ See page 241.

can we now go this same journey? What coach was called a "flying coach?" Why was it so called? Describe the journey of a Prussian clergyman. How was business carried on by Manchester merchants a hundred years ago? Give an account of the carrier's cart between Selkirk and Edinburgh. Who made several roads in Scotland? Why were they made? Who was the first great road-maker of England?



TRAVELLING IN THE LAST CENTURY.

PART II.

1. Conveyance by water was no better provided for than by land. Until the middle of last century there was very little trade in England. People carried their corn and wool and other articles to market, chiefly on horseback or on the backs of bullocks. Manure was taken to the fields in this manner. Coal was carried on horseback in some parts of the country for the blacksmiths' forges.

2. In this way the cost of conveyance was enormous, and thus any active trade was next to impossible. Something had been done to make the rivers more useful for conveying goods. Some large channels that had been cut in the Fen districts, in the east of England, had been used to a small extent for the same purpose. A small canal, three miles long, was constructed near Exeter in 1566 by a man named John Trew.

3. But it was not until the year 1716 that the first constructor of canals, and the founder of our present large canal system, was born in a very humble cottage about three miles from Buxton in Derbyshire. His name was James Brindley.

4. In 1733, Brindley, who never went to school, was bound apprentice, near Macclesfield, to a wheelwright and mill-wright of the name of Bennett. His master seems to have neglected his business very much, and to have liked the public-house better than his shop. He thought Brindley more dull and stupid than most boys, and he left him very much to himself, to learn his trade as best he could.

5. It is no wonder that the poor lad often made terrible mistakes; but he had been thinking and watching and learning all the time, and before he had completed his time as an apprentice, the customers of Mr. Bennett began to find out the skill and ability of the young man. They even asked that Brindley might be sent to do their work rather than the master.

a. On one occasion Bennett was employed to con-

struct the machinery for a new paper-mill. Though he had been sent to look at some models, which he was to imitate, he proved quite unable to complete his task. When finished, it would not work.

7. Bennett's failure began to be talked about, and Brindley resolved to make an effort to save his master from disgrace. At the end of the week, without saying a word to any one, away he went to Manchester to inspect the machinery, which was to have been copied in the new mill. He examined it carefully. He was unable to write, but he remembered every point carefully.

8. He obtained permission from his master to take the whole matter in hand. He examined and refitted the works, and introduced many improvements of his own, and finally completed the whole job to the great relief of Bennett, and the satisfaction of all concerned.

9. Though he learnt to write, he was never a good penman, and he never learnt to spell. He seemed to have a wonderful power of carrying the most minute details in his head,—a power gained by his thorough attention to the matter in hand.

10. Brindley began business for himself in 1742 at Leek, in North Staffordshire. Very soon his name was widely known as a clever mechanic and engineer. He succeeded in clearing of water some coal-pits at Clifton, when all previous attempts had failed. He erected several mills, and was always able to overcome any difficulties which came in his way.

11. *The Duke of Bridgewater* was anxious to de-

vise some means by which he could convey the coal from his pits at Worsley to Manchester more cheaply and rapidly than could then be done. Hence he



formed the design of making a canal about ten miles long. He was advised to apply to James Brindley, and to put the matter entirely into his hands. This was in 1759.

12. In order to complete this work it was necessary to carry the proposed canal over the river Irwell. Brindley proposed what is called an "aqueduct," by which this could be done. These aqueducts are now very common, but at that time such *things had never been heard of in this country.*

People laughed at the idea of carrying water *over* water. The Duke was told he was throwing away his money. But both the Duke and Brindley persevered. The thing was done, and the canal completed.

13. From this small beginning, our large canal system took its rise. Brindley lived to plan, and to a large extent execute, three hundred and sixty miles of canals. Trade was thus vastly increased. The price of fuel and other necessities of life was much reduced. Comforts, that had never been known before, were placed within the reach of the poorest and humblest. Brindley died in 1772, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

14. Such were the small and humble beginnings of our present system of travelling.

enormous, very great.

imitate, copy.

minute, small.

details, separate points.

thorough, complete.

finally, at last.

devise, plan.

aqueduct, a structure for conveying water from one place to another.

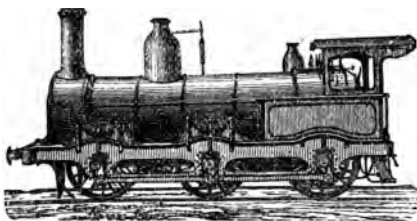
con-vey-ance sys-tem wheel-wright sat-is-fac-tion

mid-dle use-ful ma-chin-er-y at-ten-tion

ac-tive ap-pren-tice re-lief be-gin-ning

Where was the first canal ever made in England? Who was our first great canal maker? Where was he born? Give an account of the apprenticeship of James Brindley. Describe his success at Clifton. What did the Duke of Bridgewater want to do? What plan did he form to carry out his design? What do you mean by an "aqueduct?" Where was the first aqueduct made? What

was thought of the proposal to make this aqueduct? How many miles of canals were planned and constructed by James Brindley? When did Brindley die?



LITTLE BY LITTLE.

1. "Little by little," an acorn said,
As it slowly sank in its mossy bed;
"I am improving day by day,
Hidden deep in the earth away."
Little by little each day it grew;
Little by little it sipped the dew;
Downward it sent out a thread-like root;
Up in the air sprung a tiny shoot.
Day after day, and year after year,
Little by little the leaves appear;
And the slender branches spread far and wide,
Till the mighty oak is the forest's pride.
2. Far down in the depths of the dark blue sea
An insect train work ceaselessly;
Grain by grain, they are building well,
Each one alone in its little cell;

Moment by moment, and day by day,
 Never stopping to rest or play.
 Rocks upon rocks they are rearing high,
 Till the top looks out on the sunny sky;
 The gentle wind and the balmy air
 Little by little bring verdure there;
 Till the summer sunbeams gaily smile
 On the buds and flowers of the coral isle.

3. "Little by little," said a thoughtful boy,
 "Moment by moment I'll well employ,
 Learning a little every day,
 And not spending all my time in play;
 And still this rule in my mind shall dwell,
 'Whatever I do, I will do it well.'
 Little by little I'll learn to know
 The treasured wisdom of long ago;
 And one of these days perhaps we'll see
 That the world will be the better for me."
 And do not you think that this simple plan
 Made him a wise and useful man?

improving , getting better.	rearing , raising up.
hidden , out of sight.	verdure , greenness.
slender , very thin.	treasured , saved up.

a-corn	hid-den	branch-es	rear-ing
mos-sy	sip-ped	for-est	sun-beams
im-prov-ing	slen-der	in-sect	thought-ful





THE WHALE.—PART I.

1. The name of whale is given to a number of fish-like animals living entirely in the sea, and widely spread over the world. The whale is not really a fish, for it breathes air in the same manner as animals do which dwell on the land, and like them it has also warm blood.

2. Whales are the largest animals in existence, some of them being from fifty to sixty feet in length, others as many as eighty, while a few are met with a hundred and twenty feet long.

3. Whales often visit the seas around the British islands. A few years ago a shoal of whales was seen off the east coast of Scotland. Many of these were caught, but they were mostly young ones, some of them being only about twenty feet long. They are sometimes left high and dry on the beach when the tide recedes, and then are easily killed. One, seventy-five feet in length, was thus caught in the Firth of Forth. When whales go about in shoals, sailors call them "a school of whales."

4. There are several varieties of whales, but the two kinds of greatest value to man and of which we know most are the Greenland whale and the Sperm whale. Both kinds are sought after and captured, the former for oil and whalebone, the latter for oil and spermaceti.

5. The Greenland whale is from fifty to eighty feet long. The head is about one-third the length of the body, and is of enormous size. This whale has no teeth, but instead, has a great number of plates of whalebone hanging down from the roof of the mouth on either side, their lower ends spreading out into a number of fibres or fringes, so as to form a kind of sieve. When open, the mouth is big enough to admit a boat, crew and all.

6. Although this whale has such an enormous mouth, it has a very small throat, so that it could not swallow any fish much larger than a herring. Its food consists chiefly of a kind of jelly-fish, which is found in great abundance in these seas, and also of small shell-fish and sea-slugs. Its mode of obtaining food is very different from that of other animals and fishes.

7. When in want of food it opens its mouth wide, and swims rapidly through the water, which flows out at the sides of the mouth, while the plates of whalebone catch the small animals it contains. Every now and then it closes its mouth and presses the tongue against the whalebone sieve, being then able to swallow the mass of minute creatures that it has caught.

8. Like other whales it has a very broad and strong
(a) B

tail. This tail is its only means of defence against enemies. When attacked, it often lashes the sea with it until the water is covered with a white foam. The whale can easily knock a boat out of the water with its tail, and dash it to pieces.

9. Whales have also two large fins or paddles, one on each side. These are useful in swimming, and serve the purpose of arms, for when in danger from enemies, the female whale often puts them round its young one, of which it is very fond.

10. The nostrils are situated on the top of the head, and when the animal comes up to breathe, the air from its lungs sends up a mass of water or spray.

11. These whales are very timid creatures naturally, unless when attacked or their young are in danger. The slightest noise, or even a bird alighting on their backs, as they lie on the surface of the water, will frighten them off to the bottom.

manner, way.

shoal, a great number.

varieties, sorts.

enormous, very large.

rapidly, quickly.

assist, help.

breathes thought

sieve de-fence

foam tim-id

fright-en

a-light-ing

cov-er-ed

en-e-mies

dif-fer-ent

ob-tain-ing

Name the largest animal in the world. Where is it found? What is the ordinary length of the whale? What are a number of whales swimming together called? Name the two chief varieties of the whale. How big is the mouth of the Greenland whale? What sort of a throat has this whale? What is its chief food? How does it

obtain its food? What sort of a tail has the whale? What does it use this tail for? How many fins has the whale? Where are the nostrils situated?

THE WHALE.—PART II.

1. The Sperm whale, which is found in the southern seas, differs very much from the Greenland whale. The head, which occupies about one-third the length of the body, and nearly half the whole bulk, is blunter and heavier. It has no whalebone, but in the lower jaw are a number of sharp teeth. Its throat is said to be large enough to admit the body of a man, and it feeds on fish, and squids or cuttle-fishes.

2. The head of this whale contains a large cavity. It is filled with a vast amount of a clear oily fluid, which consists of sperm oil and spermaceti. The latter when pure is a white substance, and is used in making ointment and the best kinds of candles.

3. Whale fishing is carried on by men in ships, which are called "whalers," and are specially fitted up for this purpose. Both kinds of whales are captured much in the same way.

4. When the ships engaged in the Greenland whale fishery arrive at the whaling grounds, as they are called, a very striking scene presents itself to the sailors on board. Large mountains of ice, called icebergs, are seen floating about. Sounds like the firing of cannon are often heard, which are caused

by masses of ice breaking off the icebergs and falling into the sea.

5. On the floating ice around, numerous seals, and sometimes large white bears, can be observed. Every now and then, as the whales come up to breathe or blow, large jets of water are thrown into the air, like the water in a fountain.

6. There is no night in these northern regions during the whaling seasons, or at least it only lasts for an hour or two.

7. The whale is hunted by men in boats which are sent out from the ship. Some whalers take with them six or eight boats. These boats are rowed by four or more sailors. A man called a "harpooner" stands in the bow of each boat, ready to hurl a harpoon with his hand or fire it from a gun at the whale. The harpoon is a short spear to which a very long rope is attached.

8. As soon as a whale comes to the surface to blow, the sailors row rapidly up to it, and the harpooner hurls the weapon into its body. On being wounded, the whale at once lashes the sea with its tail, and makes for the bottom.

9. As it cannot remain very long under the water without coming up to breathe, the sailors in all the other boats are on the alert to look out for it. It has been known to come up just under one of the boats, and to upset it and drown the sailors.

10. When caught, the whale is fastened to the side of the ship; and the fat, or blubber, as it is also called, which in the Greenland whale is often two or *three feet thick*, is cut off its back. This is melted

down into oil in furnaces on the deck of the ship, and is put into casks to be brought home. The whalebone is also taken out of its mouth, and the remains are then dropped into the sea.

11. A whaler will continue this fishing until many hundreds of pounds worth of oil and whalebone have been obtained.

12. One kind of whale, called the White whale, which is found on the north-east coast of America, is of a cream colour, and is only about fifteen feet long. It is caught in numbers at the mouths of some of the arctic rivers.

captured, caught, taken.

cavity, a hollow.

vast, great.

masses, large pieces.

numerous, very many.

surface, top of the sea.

alert, on the watch.

fastened, fixed to.

a-mount

south-ern

oc-cu-pies

har-poon-er

sub-stance

dif-fers

spe-ci-al-ly

fur-na-ces

oint-ment

at-tach-ed

con-tin-ue

ob-tain-ed

In what does the whale found in the southern seas, differ from the Greenland whale? What has it in the lower jaw? What is the large cavity in the head filled with? What is this oil used for? What are whale ships called? What does the whale do when it comes up to breathe? How is the whale hunted? How many men are in the boats? What is the man that stands in the bow of the boat called? What does he throw? When the whale is dead what is done with it? What becomes of the fat? Where is the White whale found?



THE CHOSEN TREE.

1. A bird built her nest in a fair green tree,
In the midst of a beautiful wood;
She lined it with feathers, and made it so soft,
As only a mother could.
2. Primroses grew in the long green grass
At the foot of the chosen tree;
And the scent of sweet violets filled the air,
Like odours from Araby.
3. There the daisy, that modest simple flower,
With its eye of golden hue,

The cowslip sweet, and the wind-flower light,
And the graceful harebell grew.

4. And the dragon-fly, and the painted moth,
And the musical-wingèd bee,
And the grasshopper came with its chirping voice,
To play 'neath the chosen tree.
5. Not long ere three tiny heads were seen
Peeping out from their downy nest,
And, oh! what a happy mother was she
That warmed them beneath her breast!
6. She loved them as only a mother loves,
And she sang them her songs of glee;
There were no little birds more happy than they,
In their nest in the chosen tree!
7. But one of this little family
Grew tired of his mother's care,
He sat all day in sullen mood,
And nought to him looked fair.
8. For the heart of this little bird was changed,
And he thought he should like to roam
Away o'er the fields and the high green hills,
In search of a brighter home.
9. Ah me! there is not a brighter home
Than that which is lighted by love;
There is no other light so divinely sweet,
Not the moon nor the stars above.

10. But he fled away, and he sported awhile
Amid flowers of each perfume and hue,
And when night came on, he was weary and cold,
And it rained and the storm-wind blew.
11. Ah! then, how he thought of his mother's wing,
Which had covered him tenderly;
And his little brothers so happy and good,
In their home in the chosen tree!
12. Then he lifted his voice, but none to hear
The sound of his sorrow were nigh;
So he covered his head with his half-fledged wing,
And he sat on a stone to die.
13. Oh! never more in that beautiful wood
Was the song of his gladness heard;
And for many a day did his brothers weep
For the loss of the truant bird.
14. And for many a day no song of joy
Came up from his mother's breast;
She mourned for him with drooping wings,
But he came not again to his nest.
15. And thus, little children, from this you may learn
How even one child may be
The cause of sorrow which nought may remove
From a little family.
16. You each have a home in a chosen tree,
Which your parents have lit with love;
Oh! cause not the shadows of grief to descend,
The beautiful light to remove.

17. But seek for that wisdom which comes from on high,

And that truth which shall never decay:

That heaven-born peace which the world cannot give,

Nor the world in its pride take away.

18. And your Heavenly Father, who dwelleth above,

Will guard you wherever you be;

He will send down the light of celestial love

To your home in the chosen tree.

scent, sweet smell.

Araby, Arabia in Asia.

chirping, producing a short jerky sound.

odours, scents.

downy, covered with soft feathers.

truant, runaway.

celestial, heavenly.

hue, colour.

vi-o-let

sul-len

fledg-ed

de-scend

o-dours

wear-y

tru-ant

de-cay

chirp-ing

beau-ti-ful

a-while

ce-les-ti-al



THE BOYHOOD OF HUGH MILLER.

PART I.

1. Hugh Miller is an example to every boy of the happy results of steady industry.

2. His father was the master of a small sloop, which was lost with all on board in a fearful tempest. Hugh was only five years old when this occurred, and his mother was unable to make him understand that his father would return home no more.

3. He would visit the little harbour daily, watching the ships as they came in, and looking anxiously for the return of his father's vessel, which was to him such a season of joy.

4. When the weather was clear, he would climb a grassy hill at the back of his mother's house, which commanded a wide view of the Moray Firth. There he would watch for hours for the sight of the little sloop, with its stripes of white, and two square top sails. But he never saw it or his father again.

5. When a very small lad, his greatest delight was to sit and listen to stories, when he could get any one to relate them to him. He had an uncle named Sandy, who had been a sailor, and had fought in the French wars. Uncle Sandy was often in request to take the little fellow on his knees, to fight his battles over again, and show how they were won.

6. Hugh was sent to a dame school just before his father's death, and in the course of his sixth year

learned to read. At that early age he made his first great discovery "that the art of reading is the art of finding stories in books." No one ever made a discovery with greater delight. A new world seemed opened out to him. He had no need now to ask his friends to relate their tales. He could hold converse with books.

7. True, his reading was not very deep; it was mostly nursery tales. Jack the Giant Killer, Robinson Crusoe, and the Pilgrim's Progress were the chief, and these gave him infinite delight. He would walk up and down by the sea-shore and fancy himself one of the heroes of these tales. His mother and uncle could not make him out.

8. When he could read fairly well, he was promoted to the parish school, and found himself one amongst some hundred and fifty boys and girls. As there was only one teacher for this large number, Hugh was left to do in school pretty much what he liked.

9. He tells us himself that he spent much of his time in play, and the rest in composing pieces of poetry. He would wander for hours by the sea-side quite alone, and recite aloud to himself pieces of poetry about sea-fights and shipwrecks, which were no sooner said than they were forgotten.

10. He now began to manifest a great love for tales of the sea. His books were the travels of Captains Cook and Anson. Their voyages round the world filled him with wonder, and gave him a great desire to become a sailor. He would spend much of his time at the harbour prying into the shipping, and

talking to the sailors about the sights they had seen in foreign lands.

11. One of his favourite amusements was to get some old maps, and trace on them with a pencil, the path taken by ships going to and from the foreign countries, visited by his father and Uncle Sandy.



12. Although now in his tenth year, he was considered a dunce at school. Yet he had stored his mind with all the poetry he could lay his hands upon. One day at school, in an idle moment, he related to the boy who sat next to him, the story of

Sir William Wallace. The boy was so delighted that he told his school fellows. After this, Hugh might often be seen in the centre of a group of listeners in some quiet nook in the play-ground, or in a shady cove by the sea-shore, relating to them stories of Cook and Anson.

13. When he had told all these, he would compose stories of his own about sea-fights, storms, savages, and desert islands, such as would hold his hearers spell-bound, until he had finished them.

14. He now began to collect a library for himself—a good example for every school-boy to follow. At first a little birch box, about nine inches square, held all that belonged to him.

15. Hugh was very fond of nature, and of rambles by the sea-side. He would wander with his Uncle Sandy upon the beach, when the tide was out, and when the rays of the setting sun lit all up with a golden hue, and devour with interest every word that fell from his mouth. He would collect shells and sea-weeds, taking them home with as much pleasure as if they had been the pearls and gold he had read of in his fairy tales.

relate, tell.

discovery, finding out.

converse, conversation.

infinite, very great.

delighted, pleased.

recite, say

Cook and Anson, two celebrated navigators that sailed round the world.

prying, peering into.

for-eign

ex-am-ple

col-lect

in-dus-try

de-vour

use-ful-ness

sto-ries

com-pos-ing

for-got-ten

list-en-ers

fa-vour-ite

de-light-ed

a-muse-ments

in-ter-est

re-lat-ed

fin-ish-ed

What was the occupation of Hugh Miller's father? What became of him? Where was Hugh fond of going to look out for his father? What tales did his uncle Sandy tell him? At what age was he sent to school? What discovery did he make? Name some of the books he was fond of reading. Where did he walk to recite his poetry? What tales of the sea was he fond of reading? Who was Cook? Who was Anson? What good use did Hugh often make of some old maps? What was the story that he related to a boy in school? What did he now collect? Where was he fond of wandering with his uncle Sandy? What did he gather on the sands?

THE BOYHOOD OF HUGH MILLER.

PART II.

1. When Hugh was twelve years old, an event happened to him, which he afterwards described. One day, wandering by the sea side with a boy younger than himself, he came to a cave in the rocks. Here was a splendid place to find shells and mosses. The two determined to explore it. Hugh relates that he told his playmate tales of giants who lived in caves; that this cave had been a hiding place for Wallace; and that it was haunted by smugglers.

2. As night was coming on, they thought it time to leave and to return home. On going to the mouth of the cave they found the tide coming rapidly in. There was no way of escape from drowning, except by retiring to the farthest corner of this dark cave. The little boy began to cry. "What

will my mother think?" said he, "I would care nothing for myself—but my mother." Hugh did all he could to comfort the poor lad, and they both of them lay down together to wait for morning.

3. About two o'clock in the morning they were discovered by their friends, who had been searching



the woods all night, and had now got two boats to see if they could find their bodies amongst the rocks, as they thought they might have fallen over the cliffs.

4. After this he began to make mimic voyages on the horse pond in the village, on ships constructed similar to those of which he had read in his books. A plank often served to represent a canoe, or a Roman galley, and as shipwrecks often happened, he had plenty of matter for his pen to describe.

5. When tired of shipwrecks, he tried painting; but when boiling his oil to make the paint, it overflowed and set his mother's chimney on fire, and

this brought his labours to a close in that direction.

6. He next set himself to work at casting little images in lead, in making watch-seals out of the pebbles found on the beach, and in simple magic.

7. His favourite game at this time of his life was to make a map of a country in sand. He marked towns and roads, and for people he used coloured shells. He then appointed himself king and ruled them, making peace and war.

8. At fifteen, Hugh Miller's school days came to a close. He went to work as a mason in a quarry near his home. But his love of learning did not end with his leaving school, for he was able when not engaged in his trade, to employ his spare time in such a good manner, that he rose to be respected and loved. He afterwards became famous. His life is one of many examples of how a boy in a humble position can by his own efforts raise himself to a life of usefulness and honour.

cave, a hole in the rocks.

splendid, fine.

explore, examine.

smugglers, persons who bring articles into the country without paying the duty.

retiring, going back.

constructed, built.

canoe, a small boat.

Roman galley, a Roman boat.

describe, write or tell about.

e-vent

es-cape

hap-pen-ed

pos-i-tion

young-er

drown-ing

af-ter-wards

dis-cov-er-ed

mount-ed

far-thest

ap-point-ed

use-ful-ness

thought

search-ing

res-pect-ed

de-ter-min-ed

Where did Hugh wander when he was twelve years of age? Who was with him? What did they find amongst the rocks? What did Hugh tell his companion tales about? When night came on what did they do? Why were they unable to get out of the cave? Where were they compelled to retire to? At what time in the morning did their friends find them? On what place did Hugh now make mimic voyages? What served him for a canoe? Why did he stop painting? What was one of his favourite games at this time of his life? When he left school where did he go to work?



BOY AND CONSCIENCE.

1. *Boy.* Over the fence is a garden fair—
How I would love to be master there!
All that I lack is a mere pretence;
I could leap over the low white fence.
Consc. This is the way that all crimes commence;
Sin and sorrow are over the fence.
2. *Boy.* Over the fence I can toss my ball,
Then I can go for it—that is all;
Picking an apple up near the tree
Would not be really a theft, you see.
Consc. This is a falsehood, a weak pretence;
Sin and sorrow are over the fence.

3. *Boy.* Whose is the voice that speaks so plain?
 Twice have I heard it, and not in vain.
 Ne'er will I venture to look that way,
 Lest I should do as I planned to-day.
- Consc.* This is the way that all crimes commence;
 Coveting that which is over the fence.

pretence, excuse.
 crimes, sins, wrong deeds.
 commence, begin.
 falsehood, a lie.

venture, dare.
 planned, arranged.
 coveting, desiring
 wrongly.

con-science	pre-tence	pick-ing	ven-ture
gar-den	sor-row	re-al-ly	plan-ned
mas-ter	com-mence	false-hood	cov-et-ing

CHINESE CHOPSTICKS.

1. "What are chopsticks?" Well, they are small sticks a little longer than a pen-holder and about as large. Those used by poor people in China are made of bamboo, while the wealthy people use those manufactured from ebony or ivory, or of silver and gold.

2. They hold them very cleverly between the first and third fingers of the right hand,—separated by the second finger and steadied by the thumb. The Chinese handle them just as easily as we do our knives and forks.

3. What! don't they use knives? Not to eat with.

In preparing their food they take a knife from their pocket and use it for cutting up a chicken or a puppy. "A puppy!" I don't wonder you stare at hearing it.

4. It is well for your pet, who looks up into your face, licks your hand and wags his tail when you speak to him, that his master does not live in China, for he would not be permitted to enjoy long life in barking at the hens, in showing his teeth and putting on airs, but he would come to an inglorious end in a stew-pan! A Chinaman, though, might think it glorious.

5. You would see some strange things were you to visit that land of wonders, especially in the eating line. Eating-houses and hotels are as numerous as they are here. They have travelling eating establishments.

6. The peddler of puppy-stew walks through the street with a broad, shallow basin filled with the food already cooked, on the top of his head. He carries a small sheet-iron furnace on his back, and his big umbrella on his shoulder.

7. He finds a place to suit him where customers are numerous, sets up his umbrella, lights a charcoal fire in his furnace, and in a few minutes the piece of fish, chicken, or dog, mixed with rice, is warming and steaming in the pan. He takes his bowls and chopsticks from a basket, and in a few minutes is ready to serve the hungry crowd. For a small coin you can get a bowl full of nice, hot dog-stew!


8. We are not to think that all Chinamen live on puppies, *cats*, and *kittens*; it is only the poorest

people who are obliged to live on such food. You would not be able to obtain much beef in China; but in the provision shops there are excellent hams, ducks, geese, chickens, and fish. In the vegetable markets you can always find a supply of potatoes, beans, peas, and you may possibly find all of those in the bowl of stew which the peddlers sell.

9. To eat after the common manner, you must hold the bowl to your lips and poke the food into your mouth. If you would be genteel, you must pick up the bits of meat, the beans, and the kernels of rice with the chopsticks, and carry them steadily to your mouth, and then drink the broth.

10. If we were to go into the house of a wealthy Chinaman, and were invited to dinner, we should be three or four hours at the table, and have at least three hundred different dishes containing food placed before us! I dined one day with a mandarin—or rather we had only a lunch—and there were so many dishes, and such a variety of food, that I lost all reckoning of the number.

11. First we had roasted pumpkin seeds, then we ate some sweet cakes, and drank several cups of delicious tea, the very best that China affords. The waiters then brought in a great variety of dishes. Some of the food was sweet to the taste and good, but of other dishes a smell satisfied us.

12. We should have had an uncomfortable time, if we had undertaken to eat heartily of every dish. To be genteel in China, you must only taste and eat a little of everything brought on by the  waiters. That is no light affair at a great dinner

where three hundred kinds are served for the guests. The Chinese drink a great deal of tea at their dinner parties, but do not have wines or liquors.



separated, kept apart.
peddler, one who carries
 goods for sale.
genteel, polite.

mandarin, Chinese magis-
 trate.
delicious, delightful.
guests, visitors.

chop-stick	i-vo-ry	chick-en	um-brel-la
pen-hold-er	es-pe-ci-al-ly	per-mit-ted	ex-cel-lent
bam-boo	pre-par-ing	tra-vel-ling	man-dar-in

Who use chopsticks? What sort do the common people use? What are *the best* sorts made of? Which hand

do they hold them in? What animals do the Chinese eat that we do not? How long do the rich people sit at table? What number of dishes do they have? What do the Chinese drink at dinner? What is considered genteel conduct at table?

A GOOD NAME.

1. Children, choose it;
Don't refuse it;
'Tis a precious diadem;
Highly prize it;
Don't despise it;
You will need it when you're men.
2. Love and cherish,
Keep and nourish,
'Tis more precious far than gold;
Watch and guard it,
Don't discard it,
You will need it when you're old.

refuse, reject.

precious, of great value.

diadem, a crown.

prize, value.

despise, think lightly of.

cherish, take care of.

nourish, feed.

discard, cast off.

watch

guard

chil-dren

choose

di-a-dem

re-fuse

nour-ish

cher-ish



ENGLISH TIMBER TREES.

1. Large trees which, when cut down, can be sawn into great planks of wood, are called timber trees. Many trees do not grow to a sufficient size to be of value for the sake of their timber, but are carefully grown on account of their beauty, or for the fruit which they yield.

2. A large number of the trees which are grown in England have been originally brought from other countries. A traveller to a distant land perhaps brings back with him a young tree, a few seeds, or a small branch. The tree is set, the seeds sown, or the branch planted. From this beginning, other trees are obtained, until at last they are spread over the country, and become common.

3. Some trees, flowers, and animals seem to belong to the countries in which they are found. They were not placed there by man, but live and grow there without his aid. Such trees, flowers, and animals are called *indigenous* or native. We have in England several trees which are considered to be native. The most valuable of these are the OAK, the ELM, the ASH, the BEECH, and the FIR. They are all timber trees.

No. I.—THE OAK.

1. The oak is one of the largest and most useful of all our trees. When it has been allowed room to grow and has attained its full size, the thickness of its trunk covered with rough bark, its deep green

jagged leaves and wide-spreading branches, all give it an appearance of great beauty. The seed of the oak is the acorn. Acorns when hanging on the tree look very pretty, each placed in its little cup. Quantities of ripe acorns fall from the trees in the autumn. Drove of pigs are then sent into the oak woods to feed upon them, and the squirrel and the dormouse collect some for their winter food.

2. The oak tree grows very slowly and reaches



a great age. It hardly comes to its full size in less than a hundred years. It does not seem to be well known how long it will live. In some parts of England there are a few ancient trees which are certainly not less than three hundred years old; and in the woods

which are the remains of the old forest of Sherwood, in Nottinghamshire, there are some noble oaks of enormous size.

3. Some of them have become hollow from age, and are probably not less than four or five hundred years old. Inside one of these trees, five or six persons might take shelter during a heavy shower, and be well protected from the rain.

4. All parts of the oak are put to use by man. The bark is used by the tanner in tanning, or converting the skins of animals into leather. For this

purpose the bark is thrown into pits containing water, and the skins are allowed to soak in the liquid for many weeks.

5. The wood, which is hard and durable, is especially fitted for ship-building, and is much used for pulpits, pews, and carved ornaments in our places of worship. In some of the warmer countries, acorns form a part of the food of the poor people.

6. The gall-nut and the oak-apple, both of which grow on the smaller branches and leaves of the oak, are produced by the puncture of a little fly, in which it deposits an egg. They are used in making ink and in dyeing black. Even oak saw-dust is of great value to the dyer, being employed in the dyeing of fustian.

7. Oaks grow in many other countries besides England. That useful and well-known substance, cork, is the bark of a kind of oak which grows in Portugal, Spain, Italy, the southern parts of France, and the Barbary States in the north of Africa.

yield, give.
originally, first.
obtained, got.
aid, help.

protected, screened.
employed, used.
durable, lasting.
ancient, old.

beau-ty	at-tain-ed	e-nor-mous	or-na-ments
be-gin-ning	quan-ti-ties	pro-ba-bly	dye-ing
in-di-gen-ous	squir-rel	li-quid	fus-ti-an
val-u-a-ble	suf-fi-cient	es-pe-ci-al-ly	sub-stance

What are timber trees? What are those trees, flowers, and animals called which belong to a country? Name

some native trees in England. Which is the largest of our trees? What is the seed of the oak called? What animals feed on acorns? How long does it take the oak to come to its full size? Where may some noble oaks be seen? How old are some of them? Of what use is the bark of the oak? What things are made of oak? Of what use is the gall-nut? What is cork?

NO. II.—THE ELM.

1. Next to the oak, the elm is the handsomest of our English timber trees.



It grows to a great height, and with its wide-spreading branches extending from its trunk all round, covers a large extent of ground with its shade. In the early spring, it is one of the first trees to put forth its leaves, which are of a brighter, lighter green than those of the oak.

2. Elm trees are not generally found in the woods, but are usually planted in rows by the side of the roads leading to gentlemen's houses. When thus placed, they form very pleasant shady groves to walk under during the heat of summer.

3. The wood of the elm is well adapted for water-wheels, the bottoms of ships, and the large piles which *are driven in* to keep up the embankments of rivers.

4. It is hard and tough, and does not readily rot when exposed to the damp; for that reason coffins are commonly made of elm.

5. It is also used for carving and for the main timbers in strong buildings. The leaves of the elm form very good food for cattle, and might well be used for that purpose during a scarcity of hay and grass.

trunk, body.	piles, stakes.
extent, piece.	exposed, subjected.
generally, often.	main, chief.
adapted, fitted.	scarcity, want.

hand-som-est	light-er	read-i-ly	build-ings
spread-ing	u-su-al-ly	com-mon-ly	cat-tle
bright-er	em-bank-ments	carv-ing	pur-pose

Which is the handsomest of English timber trees after the oak? Of what colour are its leaves? Where are elm-trees usually planted? For what is the wood of the elm well adapted? Why will not the wood of the elm readily rot? To what use may the leaves of the elm be put in a time of scarcity of hay and grass?

No. III.—THE BEECH.

1. The beech, a very fine noble-looking tree, may be known by its rounded leaf, its smooth mottled bark, and its large knotted roots.

2. Beeches frequently grow in woods, though they are also common by the sides of our country roads. In some parts of the country there are large woods composed almost *entirely* of beech trees.

3. There is a beautiful wood of this kind in Nottinghamshire, called Birkswood. It is in the district of Sherwood Forest.

4. In the autumn the ground in the beechen woods is covered with the seed, which is called beech-mast. There are sweet little kernels inside. These are eaten by deer, squirrels, and pigs.



5. Beech wood is hard and durable, and is much used by the turner, who makes with it washing-bowls, posts for bedsteads, large screws, and many kinds of toys. It is also

made up by the cabinet-maker into various articles of furniture.

mottled, marked with
spots of different colours.
compoced, formed.

durable, lasting.
cabinet-maker, maker
of furniture.

knot-ted	dis-trib	ker-nel	va-ri-ous
fre-quent-ly	beau-ti-ful	wood-en	ar-ti-cles
en-tire-ly	beech-en	bed-steads	fur-ni-ture

What kind of tree is the beech? How may it be known? Where do beeches generally grow? Where is there a beautiful wood of beech trees? What is the seed of the beech called? What animals feed upon the kernel? By whom is beech wood much used? Why?

No. IV.—THE ASH.

1. The ash is generally grown in woods, and though a tall tree, is not nearly so bushy or compact in appearance as the elm or the beech. The bark is smooth



and light coloured. The leaves, which are of a dark green colour, do not come forth until late in the spring, and fall off early in the autumn.

2. The seeds of the ash are what are called winged seeds. They have a kind of wing or feather attached to them, so that they are easily blown about and carried to a great distance by the wind. We must all know some flowers which have winged seeds. The common yellow dandelion bears such seeds. They look almost like a ball of feathers on the top of a green stem, and children frequently blow them off in sport.

3. The seed of the ash, scattered far and wide, frequently springs up in the midst of old ruins, and in the course of time the roots penetrate into the mortar between the stones. Very fine ash trees are often met with in such places.

4. The wood of the ash is strong and tough. As it will not readily split, it is much used for making plough handles, spokes of wheels, waggons, carts, and most implements of husbandry.

5. The ash is a very hardy tree, and does not require any great depth of earth for the roots; it is often seen growing among rocks on the side of a mountain. Beautiful in itself, it adds beauty to the wild and solitary places of the earth.

compact , close.	implements , tools.
attached , fastened.	husbandry , farming.
scattered , spread about.	require , need.
penetrate , pierce.	solitary , lonely.

bush-y	car-ri-ed	ru-ins	wag-gons
col-our-ed	dan-de-li-on	mor-tar	depth
ea-si-ly	fre-quent-ly	plough	moun-tain

What is the appearance of the bark of the ash? When do the leaves of the ash appear? When do they fall off? What are the seeds of the ash called? Why? Name a flower which has winged seeds. What do they look like? Where are very fine ash trees often seen? How did the seed get to such places? For what purpose is ash timber much used?

NO. V.—THE FIR.

1. Of all the trees which are used for timber by man, there are none which are so generally useful as the various kinds of firs. They often form extensive forests, and grow abundantly in most of the colder parts of the temperate regions of the earth, clothing the sides of the mountains, and sheltering the valleys from the cold winds.

2. It is from the kind of fir called the wild pine,

or Scotch fir, that we get the well-known wood named deal. Light and soft, it is easily worked; and being sufficiently durable for all ordinary purposes, it is much used by the carpenter for the joists and floors of our houses, staircases, window-frames, doors, shelves, and for many articles of common furniture.

3. The Scotch pine grows on the hills of that part of Scotland called the Highlands, the northern portion of our island; on the wilds of Yorkshire; and, in fact, in any part of the country which is sufficiently bleak and exposed.



4. It thrives best in the coldest and most unsheltered situations. Though called by a different name, the Scotch pine also thrives on the mountains of the continent of Europe, and grows in vast forests in Germany, Russia,

Norway, Sweden, and North America. From Canada in North America, Sweden and Norway, many hundreds of thousands of deal planks are yearly sent to this country.

5. The fir trees are sawn into planks near the spot where they are felled or cut down, by the aid of the water-mills, which are built on every convenient stream. Firs are among those trees and shrubs which are called evergreens; that is to say, they do not lose their leaves during the winter.

6. The branches, covered with small leaves like points, have somewhat the appearance of large feathers. They are of a very dark green colour. Fir woods, when seen at a distance, appear to be almost black. The seeds of the fir are inclosed within the cone, hundreds of seeds lying neatly packed inside the hard shell.

7. Firs usually grow tall and straight, and make the best masts for our large ships. Turpentine, the liquid which is so much used in mixing oil-paints, is obtained from the fir tree. The juice flows from the tree, and is collected into troughs, from whence it is put into casks, ready for shipment to those countries where it is wanted. Pitch and tar are also products of the fir tree.

extensive, very large.

abundantly, plentifully.

regions, parts.

thrives, grows well.

convenient, fit.

products, things made.

suf-fi-cient-ly

use-ful

or-di-na-ry

con-ti-nent

ap-pear-ance

val-leys

sit-u-a-tions

tur-pen-tine

What is deal? What does the carpenter make of deal? Where does the Scotch pine grow? Why are firs called evergreens? Of what are the masts of ships made? Whence is turpentine obtained?

OTHER TREES.

1. There are other trees, now common in England, which we should endeavour to become acquainted with. One of the most beautiful is the fine spreading horse-chestnut, frequently grown near gentle-

men's houses. It has a large broad leaf, and in the month of May the branches are decorated with numbers of spikes of flowers, each of them six or eight inches long, of a white colour tinged with pink.

2. In the autumn a prickly green ball, which contains the seed, falls from the tree. If you open one of them you will find a chestnut inside, which is bitter to the taste. It is not an eatable chestnut. It is sometimes given to horses as a medicine, and hence is called horse-chestnut.

3. The eatable fruit grows on the Spanish chestnut, which is a large timber tree. The wood is close-grained and hard. There are a number of Spanish chestnut trees in Greenwich Park. In the South of Europe chestnuts are used as an article of food by the poorer people, and even made into bread.

4. There are several kinds of willow trees, and some of them, there can be no doubt, are natives of England. All the willows like moisture, and grow best in damp places. Amongst them the white willow grows to the largest size.

5. It has a narrow gray leaf, and is very common by the sides of streams and rivers. The wood of this willow is very white; it can be made very smooth, and on account of its cleanly appearance is often used for making vessels for holding milk.

6. The osier is a kind of willow, common in low places, which are occasionally covered with water. It has long slender branches, and is cultivated for the use to which these are put in making baskets. All the common baskets are made of osiers. There

are some small islands in the middle of the Thames which are covered with these trees.

7. Some of you have seen the palm which is gathered for Palm Sunday. The palm tree is a native of hot countries, and does not grow in England. The branches called palm which are used here, are a kind of willow which comes into flower very early in the spring, before its leaves have come forth.

8. The weeping willow is the most graceful of all the willows. Usually planted by the side of pools, rivers, and streams, its long slender branches often hang down into the water, and in damp misty weather, drops of moisture are sometimes seen falling from the ends of the leaves.

acquainted, familiar.

decorated, ornamented.

cultivated, grown.

moisture, damp.

spread-ing chest-nut

ting-ed

fre-quent-ly

oc-ca-sion-al-ly

ap-pear-ance

o-si-er

gath-er-ed

Where may chestnut trees be seen? What kind of leaf has it? Where does the eatable chestnut grow? Where do willows grow best? Which is the largest? What is made of the wood of the willow? Of what are common baskets made?



SMALL THINGS.

1. Who dares to scorn the meanest thing,
The humblest weed that grows,
While pleasure spreads its joyous wing
On every breeze that blows?
The simplest flower that, hidden, blooms
The lowest on the ground,
Is lavish of its rare perfumes,
And scatters sweetness round.
2. The poorest friend upholds a part
Of life's harmonious plan;
The weakest hand may have the art
To serve the strongest man.
The bird that highest, clearest sings,
To greet the morning's birth,
Falls down to drink, with folded wings,
Love's rapture on the earth.
3. From germs too small for mortal sight
Grow all things that are seen,
There floating particles of light
Weave Nature's robe of green.
The motes that fill the sunny rays
Build ocean, earth, and sky—
The wondrous orbs that round us blaze
Are motes to Deity!
4. Life, love, devotion, closely twine,
Like tree and flower and fruit;
They ripen by a power divine,
Though fed by leaf and root.

And he who would be truly great,
 Must venture to be small;
 On airy columns rests the dome
 That, shining, circles all.

5. Small duties grow to mighty deeds;
 Small words to thoughts of power;
 Great forests spring from tiny seeds,
 As moments make the hour.
 And life, howe'er it lowly grows,
 The essence to it given,
 Like odour from the breathing rose,
 Floats evermore to heaven.

lavish, liberal or profuse.
 perfumes, pleasant odours.
 harmonious, having the
 parts adapted to each
 other.
 rapture, extreme joyous-
 ness.
 germs, beginnings.

particles, minute parts
 or atoms.
 motes, very small par-
 ticles.
 venture, dare.
 columns, pillars.
 dome, arched roof.
 essence, qualities.

mean-est
 scat-ters

high-est
 sweet-ness

clear-est
 de-vot-ion

cir-cles
 breath-ing





BRAVE MARY OF THE LIGHTHOUSE.

1. A lighthouse is a tower or building, the upper part of which is called "the lantern," where lamps are lit at night to guide ships on their way, and to show where danger lies.

2. Little Mary was the daughter of the keeper of a lighthouse off the coast of Cornwall.

3. One day her father, having to go for food, crossed the causeway which leads to the land, and little Mary was left in the lighthouse alone. Her father had trimmed the lamps, and they were ready for lighting when *the evening* came on.

4. This causeway was a pathway over the rocks and sands, which could only be passed when the tide was low. He had told Mary not to be afraid, for he would return before it was dark, and before the tide flowed over the path to the shore.

5. But there were some rough-looking men behind a rock, who were watching Mary's father and seemed glad as they saw him go to the mainland. These men were *wreckers*. They waited about the coast, and if a ship was driven by a storm on the rocks, they rushed down—not to help the poor sailors—but to rob them, and plunder their vessel.

6. These wicked men knew that there was only a little girl left in the lighthouse, and they formed a plan for detaining her father all night. Some ships, filled with rich goods, were expected to pass before the morning, and they thought that, should the lamps in the lighthouse not be lit, these vessels would run upon the rocks and be wrecked; and then the goods would be their spoil.

7. Mary's father had filled his basket with bread and other things, and had prepared to return, for it would soon be time to light the lamps. As he drew nigh to the road leading to the causeway the wreckers rushed from their hiding-place and threw him on the ground.

8. They quickly bound his hands and feet with ropes and carried him into a shed, there to lie till morning. It was in vain that he cried to them to be set free; they only mocked his distress. They then left him in charge of two men while they ran back *to the shore*.

9. Mary looked from a narrow window in the lighthouse, thinking it was time for her father to come back. The clock in the room had just struck six, and she knew that the waters would soon rise up to the causeway. She waited and waited for him to return. It began to grow dark and a storm was coming on, but she could not see him. She then thought of how the lamps were to be lit. She was but a little girl, and the lamps were far above her reach. She resolved, however, to try to light them.

10. First she got a few matches and made a light. The next thing was to carry a set of steps to the spot, and attempt to reach the lamps. But after much labour, she found they were still above her head. A small table was next brought, and Mary put the steps upon it, and mounted to the top with hope and joy, for now she was almost sure she could reach the lamps.

11. But no; though she stood on tiptoe they were even yet a little higher than she could reach. Poor Mary was about to sit down and weep, when she thought of a large book out of which her father used to read. In a minute it was brought and placed under the steps, which raised them just high enough for her to light the wicks, and the rays of the lamp shone brightly far over the dark waters all that stormy night.

12. When the morning came the wreckers had let the father loose from the shed. The water was again down from the causeway. He soon had the pleasure of meeting his brave little Mary, and hearing her relate the trials and difficulties she had to pass

through while alone during that stormy night in the lighthouse.

pathway, narrow road.

coast, sea shore.

mocked, made fun of.

distress, sorrow.

resolved, determined.

attempt, make an effort.

relate, tell.

trials, troubles.

light-house dis-tress

lan-tern daugh-ter

build-ing cause-way

wreck-er wait-ed

ex-pect-ed pleas-ure

quick-ly dif-fi-cul-ties

What is a lighthouse? What is the upper part of a lighthouse called? Where was the lighthouse mentioned in this story? What is a "causeway?" How was it that Mary was left alone in the lighthouse? What kind of men were looking out for her father? What did they do with the father? Why did they treat him in that manner? What did Mary resolve to do? Describe her first attempt. How did she at last succeed? Describe the meeting of Mary and her father.



STORY OF A VIOLET.

A FABLE.—PART I.

1. The grassy dingle near the old ivy-grown farmhouse was a pretty spot. The trees spread their branches wide overhead, the wild rose and woodbine climbed amongst the hazel bushes, and threw



their long sweeping garlands across the silver tinkling brook that flowed beneath over the smooth pebbles.

2. There, during the spring and summer, grew the sweetest and loveliest wild flowers;—primroses, bluebells, wood-anemones, pink-campion, and the gleaming starwort in spring; meadow-sweet, foxgloves, and many others in summer. But down in a mossy

through while alone during that stormy night
lighthouse.

pathway, narrow road.
coast, sea shore.
mocked, made fun of.
distress, sorrow.

resolved, deter-
attempt, make
relate, tell.
trials, troubles.

light-house	dis-tress	wreck-er	wait-er
lan-tern	daugh-ter	ex-pect-ed	pleas-ur
build-ing	cause-way	quick-ly	dif-fi-c

What is a lighthouse? What is the upper
lighthouse called? Where was the lighthouse
in this story? What is a "causeway?" How
Mary was left alone in the lighthouse? What
men were looking out for her father? What
with the father? Why did they treat him in that
What did Mary resolve to do? Describe her first
How did she at last succeed? Describe the
Mary and her father.



hollow, sheltered from the cutting wind, grew and flowered earlier than anywhere else, the sweetest and most beautiful purple and white violets. Large clusters lifted up their modest heads to greet the cheering rays of the still wintry sun as they shone through the branches overhead.

3. But while the flowers strove to meet the friendly warmth, one among them shrunk under the shelter of her green leaves, fearing to be seen. She was smaller than the rest of her sisters, and her petals, instead of being dazzling white like theirs, were tinged with purple at the tips.

4. "Alas!" she said to herself, sighing under the green shelter, "what a poor ugly thing I am; of what use am I in the world? What pleasure can I ever give? Nobody will ever care to look at me."

Just then a robin flew down to drink at the brook close to the nook where the flowers grew. "Ah!" said he, putting his head on one side and giving it a shake, "what a sweet scent there is here! I wonder what it is!"

5. He gave two hops, then, seeing the flowers, he cried, fluttering his wings, "Oh! it is my old friends the violets. Welcome back again! You quite revive one's heart, for one is always sure when you appear, that spring is come again."

So saying, he gave several little nods, fluttered his wings, and flew away.

6. "Ah! well," said the little violet, "perhaps all people do not care for beauty. The robin likes us for our perfume, and he did not seem to care for our looks; now I can give out as sweet a scent as any

of my sisters. I will try." So she again lifted up her head, and peeped forth from under her green leaves, that the sun might bring forth her odours. The warmth revived her, and she felt a glow of delight as, at the same time, her stem grew taller, and she became a finer flower.

7. Directly, some merry children from the farmhouse came running down the slope to the brook, with little baskets in their hands. "Let us look," they said, "in the place where we found so many last year." They came towards the hollow, and shouted for joy as the sweet perfume greeted them, and they saw the ground spotted over with the white and purple tufts.

8. "Oh, the pretty violets!" they cried, "and what a number of them!" They knelt down on the grass, and before long had gathered all the flowers that were blown, both white and purple. They then put them up in bunches, and when they had finished, carried them home joyfully to their mother, who placed them in a basket with damp moss, and sent them to market.

9. It was a scene very different from the green dingle which the little violet saw when she was taken from the basket. All was noise and confusion; everything seemed moving, and there was not a single green spot to be seen, except some cabbages and herbs near her. The very air was thick and dusty.

10. "Six bunches in all," said the woman who had taken the flowers from the basket; "go now and sell them while they are fresh, and we shall get a

good price for them," she continued, giving them to her daughter.

dingle , a narrow dale.	scent , perfume.
garlands , wreaths of flowers.	odours , sweet smells.
petals , flower leaves.	revive , bring to life again.

ha-zel	friend-ly	flut-ter-ed	con-fu-sion
peb-bles	daz-zling	spot-ted	ex-cept
an-em-on-es	sigh-ing	joy-ful-ly	cab-bag-es
vi-o-lets	flut-ter-ing	dif-fer-ent	con-tin-u-ed

Where was the grassy dingle? What flowers grew there? Where did the purple and white violets grow? What did the robin say when he came to drink at the brook? Who came from the farm-house? What did they cry out when they saw the violets? What did their mother do with the violets?

STORY OF A VIOLET.

PART II.

1. The poor little violet hardly knew anything that passed, until she found herself in the hand of a lady who had bought the bunch in which she was. It was very uncomfortable being carried so. The motion shook the flowers, and knocked them against one another. Suddenly they all fell to the ground. The lady stooped to pick them up, but one poor violet, which, on account of her shorter stem, was not tied so firmly as the rest, dropped out.

2. "See, mamma, here is one that has come loose," cried a little girl that ran by the lady's side.

"Never mind that; it is ugly and small," she replied.

The child threw it down on the pavement, and they passed on.

3. The poor flower felt very unhappy lying there on the cold stones, the chill wind blowing on her, and expecting every moment to be trodden under foot by the passers-by. How sad a change it was, she thought; how different from the warm, sunny dingle, where she was surrounded by all her dear friends and sheltered under the green leaves, and no sound was heard but the singing of the birds, the rippling of the stream, and the rustling of the wind among the trees overhead. And now she must die unheeded; she was too small for any one to see her there, too ugly for any one to love.

4. But no! Just then a young girl passing, caught sight of the flower, and quickly stooped to pick it up, saying with joy, "Oh, what a beautiful violet!" She fondled it tenderly, enjoying its sweet smell; and carefully protecting it from the wind, carried it home and placed it in a little glass of water in the window.

5. Again and again during the day she left her work for a moment to bend over the violet, enjoying its fragrance and the memory it called up of pleasant country lanes, fields, and singing birds. Her poor dark home had few objects of beauty in it, and this little flower was precious indeed.

6. Now at length the poor violet was truly happy.

she was of some use in the world, some one loved her. She gratefully opened out her petals and breathed forth her sweetest perfume till evening, and then slowly drooped her head and died.

motion, movement.
suddenly, unexpectedly.
unheeded, not noticed.
precious, very valuable.

fondled, handled with love.
fragrance, perfume.
gratefully, thankfully.

un-com-fort-a-ble	rip-pling	pleas-ant	o-pen-ed
pave-ment	pro-tect-ing	pre-ci-ous	sweet-est
sur-round-ed	en-joy-ing	length	droop-ed

Who had bought the bunch in which the little violet was? What happened to the violets as she carried them? Who picked up the violet that the little girl had thrown down? What did she say? What did she do with it when she got home? What did the violet do to show her gratitude? What took place in the evening?

THE VIOLET.

1. Down in a green and shady bed
 A modest violet grew,
 Its stalk was bent, it hung its head,
 As if to hide from view.
2. And yet it was a lovely flower,
 Its colour bright and fair;
 It might have graced a rosy bower.
 Instead of hiding there

3. Yet there it was content to bloom,
 In modest tints arrayed;
 And there diffused a sweet perfume
 Within the silent shade.

4. Then let me to the valley go,
 This pretty flower to see;
 That I may also learn to grow
 In sweet humility.

shady, in the shade.
modest, meek.
violet, a flower.
lovely, beautiful.

diffused, spread around.
perfume, sweet smell.
humility, humbleness.
arrayed, dressed.

shad-y	flow-er	in-stead	dif-fus-ed
mod-est	love-ly	hid-ing	per-fume
vi-o-let	col-our	ar-ray-ed	hu-mil-i-ty



THE ALARUM CLOCK.

1. A lady, who found it difficult to awake as early as she desired in the morning, purchased an alarum clock. This kind of clock is so contrived as to strike with a very loud whizzing noise at any time the owner pleases.

2. The lady placed the clock near the head of the bed, and at the appointed time she found herself fully aroused by the loud rattling sound. She immediately obeyed the summons, and felt the better all day for her early rising.

3. This continued for several weeks. The alarum clock faithfully performed its office, and was distinctly *heard*, so long as it was *promptly obeyed*. But, after a time, the lady grew tired of early rising, and, when awakened by the noisy monitor, merely turned herself, and slept again.

4. In a few days the clock ceased to arouse her from her slumber. It spoke just as loudly as ever, but she did not hear it, because she had acquired the habit of disobeying it.

5. Finding that she might just as well be without an alarum clock, she formed the wise resolution, that if she ever heard the sound again, she would jump up *instantly*, and she would never allow herself to disobey the friendly warnings.

6. Just so it is with conscience. If we obey its dictates, even to the most trifling particulars, we always hear its voice clear and strong. But if we allow ourselves to do what we fear is not quite

right, we shall grow more and more sleepy, until the voice of conscience has no longer any power to awaken us.

purchased, bought.
immediately, at once.
summons, call.
promptly, instantly.
monitor, reminder.

ceased, stopped.
arouse, awake.
slumber, sleep.
conscience, the inward monitor.

a-la-rum	whiz-zing	faith-ful-ly	re-so-lu-tion
a-wake	a-rous-ed	o-bey-ed	friend-ly
de-sir-ed	rat-tling	a-wak-en-ed	dic-tates
con-triv-ed	con-tin-u-ed	ac-quir-ed	par-tic-u-lars

What did the lady buy? When does it strike? Where did she place the clock? What did she do when she heard the alarum? How long did she continue to do this? What did the lady do after a time? Why did she not hear the alarum? What wise resolve did she make? How does conscience speak to us if we obey it? When does conscience lose its power over us?

ALI THE BOY CAMEL-DRIVER.

PART I.

1. Hassan was a camel-driver who dwelt at Gaza. It was his business to go with caravans backwards and forwards, across the desert to Suez to take care of the camels of travelling merchants. Hassan had a wife and one young son, called Ali.

2. Hassan had been absent for many weeks, when his wife received from him a message, brought by

another camel-driver, who returned with a caravan from Suez. It said:—"Send the boy with the camel to Suez with the next caravan that starts from Gaza. I have some merchandise to bring home, and I will stop at Suez till he comes."

3. Ali's mother prepared to obey the message. She grieved at the thought of sending her young son away to such a distance for the first time; but she said to herself that Ali was now quite old enough to be helping his father, and she immediately set about doing what was required for his journey. Ali got out the housings for the camel, and looked to the water-skins to see that they did not leak. His mother mended a rent in Ali's tunic, and bought him a new pair of slippers. She did all that was needed to make him quite ready the moment she knew that a caravan was about to start.

4. Ali was delighted to think that he was to go to his father, and that at last the day was come when he too was to be a camel-driver, and to take a journey with the dear old camel which he was so fond of. He had long wanted to ride on his back across the desert, and to lie down by his side when they rested at night. He had no fear.

5. The camel, which belonged to Hassan, and of which Ali was so fond, had been bought with the savings of many a year's hard work, and formed the sole riches of the family. It almost, indeed, caused Hassan to be looked upon as quite a rich man by the other camel-drivers, and Ali, besides having a great love for the animal itself, was proud of his father being a camel owner. He fed the

camel every day himself, and though it was a great creature by the side of the young boy, yet it would obey the voice of Ali, and come and go at his bidding, and lie down and rise up just as he wanted. He called his camel by an Arabian word, which meant "Meek-eye."

6. At last there was a caravan about to start for Suez which Ali could join. The party of merchants



met near the gates of the city, where there were some wells, at which the water-skins could be filled. Ali's mother attended, and bid her son a loving farewell.

7. The caravan started. The camels which were to lead the way had round their necks jingling bells, which the others hearing, followed without other guidance. Ali looked round and saw his mother standing on a mound near the city gate. He took his cap off and waved it round his head, and his

mother took off the linen cloth which she wore over her head, and waved it also. Thus they parted.

8. Tramp, tramp, tramp went the camels, their soft spongy feet making a noise as they trod the ground. The camel-drivers laughed, and talked to each other. Ali was the only boy in the caravan, and no one seemed to take any notice of him. He had a stout heart, and tried not to care. He could talk to Meek-eye, and this he did, patting the creature's back, and telling him how soon they would both see his father.

9. The sun rose higher and higher, and the day grew hotter and hotter. The morning breeze died away, and the noon was close and sultry. The sand glowed like fire. There was nothing to be seen but sand and sky. At mid-day a halt was made at one of the places well known to the drivers, where shade and water could be had. The water-skins were not to be touched that day, for at this place a little stream, which gushed from a rock, supplied enough for the men, while the camels needed no water for many days. After resting a short time, the kneeling camels were made to rise, the riders first placing themselves on their backs, and the caravans then moved on.

10. At night the whole party encamped for rest, the camels lying down, while fires were lighted, and meats and drinks were cooked. Several days were thus passed, and Ali became accustomed to this kind of life, and liked it as well as he thought he should.

Suez , a town in Egypt.	desert , a sandy waste.
caravan , a company of travelling merchants.	housings , trappings.
merchandise , the goods of a merchant.	tunic , loose frock.
	sultry , hot and stifling.
	halt , stop.

mes-sage	jour-ney	guid-ance	sup-plied
re-turn-ed	ser-vice	spong-y	en-camp-ed
o-bey	A-ra-bi-an	scarce-ly	ac-cus-tom-ed

Where did Hassan live? What was the name of Hassan's son? What message did Hassan send to his wife? What did she do to Ali's tunic? How did Ali feel when he was told to go to his father? What did Ali call his camel? How was water carried across the desert? What did Ali do when he parted from his mother? Why did the camels walk so quietly? When did they halt?

ALI THE BOY CAMEL-DRIVER.

PART II.

1. No Arabs were met with, nor even seen in the distance; but a danger of the desert, worse than a party of Arabs, came upon them. There arose one day at noon one of those fearful burning winds which do such mischief to the traveller and his camel. The loose sand was raised like a cloud. It filled the nostrils and blinded the eyes. The wind was so hot and stifling, that it almost took away the breath.

2. There was nothing to be done but for the men to get off the backs of the camels, and lie down with their faces to the earth. After the storm had passed they were able to rise, and continue their

journey. It happened, that the sand so blown, had covered the beaten track, and thus all trace of the road was lost.

3. The camel-drivers who led the way stood still, and owned that they did not know which way to turn. No distant rock or palm-tree was to be seen,



and no one could say which was the south, towards which their faces ought to be turned. Many vain attempts were made to find the right path. They were like ships without compasses or rudders. They wandered on, losing themselves more and more, now turning to the right, and now to the left; and sometimes when they had gone some distance in one direction, retracing their steps and trying another.

4. *The caravan made a halt, and it was determined*

now to journey towards the setting sun, in hopes of finding once more the right track. Night came on, however, and they had not found it, nor had they reached any place where they could fill their water-skins, which were empty. Once or twice some one of the party fancied, that he saw in the distance the top of a palm-tree; but no, it had turned out to be but a little cloud upon the horizon. They had not yet fallen into the old track, neither had they supplied themselves with water to cool their parched lips.

5. Poor Ali suffered like the rest from terrible thirst, and was full of sorrow at the thought that his father would be expecting him at Suez. He drained the last drop of water from his leathern bottle, and thought of the morrow with fear. He was so tired that, when the caravan halted for the night, he was glad to get off poor Meek-eye and lie down by his side, and close his weary eyes in sleep. Ali slept, but before the night was over, he awoke again. He heard voices talking near him.

6. He listened, and heard the chief driver tell one of the merchants that, if they did not find water very soon, the next day a camel must be killed for the sake of the water, contained in its stomach. This is often done in cases of great need in the desert, the stomach of the camel being so formed as to hold a great quantity of water in large cavities or cells.

7. Ali was not surprised to hear such a thing mentioned; but what was his distress and alarm, when he heard the merchant propose that it should be "the boy's camel" that should be killed! The mer-

chants said that the other camels were of too good a race, and of too much value, while, as to this young boy, what business had he to have a camel of his own? It would be better far, they said, for him to lose his camel than for him to die, like the rest, of thirst. And so it was decided that Meek-eye should be killed, unless water were found the next morning.

8. Ali slept no more. His heart was full of grief; but his grief was mixed with courage and resolution. He said to himself that Meek-eye should not die. His father had trusted him to bring the camel to him, and what would he say if he should arrive at Suez without him? He would run the risk of finding his way alone. He would leave the caravan that very night.

9. Presently, when all was silent, and the merchant and camel-driver had left off talking, and composed themselves to sleep, Ali arose, and quietly and gently patting the neck of Meek-eye, awoke him. He placed his empty bag and water-skins on his back, and seating himself on him, made signs for the creature to rise, and then suddenly started off.

10. Tramp, tramp, tramp, went Meek-eye over the soft sand. The night was cool and refreshing, and Ali felt stronger and braver with every tramp. The stars were twinkling brightly in the deep blue sky, and they were his only guides. He knew the star which was always in the north, and the one which was in the west after the sun had gone down; and which was so bright and large, and had not yet set. He must keep that star to his right, and then he *would be sure to be going towards the south.*

mischief, injury.
nostrils, openings of the
 nose.
track, path.
decided, settled on.

horizon, point where the
 earth and sky seem to meet.
parched, dried.
surprised, astonished.
cavities, hollows.

dis-tance ter-ri-ble
 com-pass-es ex-pect-ing
 de-ter-min-ed sto-mach

sur-pris-ed crea-ture
 cour-age twink-ling
 re-so-lu-tion to-wards

What did the burning winds do in the desert? What did the men and camels do during the storm? When were they able to find the west? What did Ali hear the chief driver say they should do if they did not find water? Whose camel did the merchant say should be killed? Why was Ali's camel to be killed? What did Ali resolve to do that very night? What did he do when the camp was quiet? Which star did he keep to his right hand?



ALI THE BOY CAMEL-DRIVER.

PART III.

1. Ali journeyed on till day began to dawn. The great fiery ball came up on the edge of the desert, and rose higher and higher. Ali felt faint, weary, and thirsty, and could scarcely hold himself on to Meek-eye. When he thought of his father and mother, he took courage again, and bore up bravely. The sun was now at his height. Ali fancied he saw a palm-tree in the distance. It seemed as if Meek-

eye saw it also, and was cheered by the sight, for he raised his head and quickened his steps, so that it was not long before Ali found himself at one of those pleasant islands of verdure, which are so mercifully scattered about the desert.

2. He threw himself from the camel's back, and hunted out the pool of water, that he knew he should find in the midst of the reeds and rushes, which grew there. He dipped in his water-skin and drank, while Meek-eye, doubling up his long legs beneath him, and lying down, stretched out his long neck, and greedily sucked up great draughts of it. How sweet was the sleep which crept over them as they lay down in the shade of the great palm-tree, now that they had quenched their thirst!

3. Refreshed and rested, Ali was able to satisfy his hunger on a bunch of ripe dates from the palm-tree, while Meek-eye browsed upon the grass and leaves around. Ali noticed, while eating his dates, that other travellers had been there recently; as the grass at the side of the pool was trampled down, and date-stones lay strewn around the palm-tree. This greatly cheered him. He quickly followed in their track, still going in a southerly direction.

4. He took care to keep the setting sun to his right hand, and when he had gone down, Ali observed the large bright star that had guided him before. He travelled on, tired and faint with hunger for many a mile, till at last he saw, a long way off, the fires of the caravan which had halted for the night. Ali soon came up to them. He alighted from Meek-eye, and leading him by the bridle, came towards a

group of camel-drivers, who were sitting in a circle and resting themselves.

5. He told them his story, and asked permission to join the party, and begged a little rice, for which he was ready to pay with the piece of money that his mother had sewn into the lining of his tunic. Ali was kindly received by them, and allowed to partake of their supper. The men admired the courage with which he had endeavoured to save his favourite camel. Ali soon slept soundly by the side of Meek-eye, upon whose long neck his head as usual rested for a pillow.

6. In the midst of a pleasant dream, Ali was suddenly aroused by the sound of tinkling bells, and on waking up, and looking round him, he saw, that another caravan had arrived, which had come from the south. The merchants sat down to wait until their supper was brought to them by their attendants, and a party of camel-drivers drew round the fire near which Ali had been sleeping. They raked up its ashes, put on fresh fuel, and then prepared to boil their rice.

7. What voice was that which roused Ali as he was beginning to sink again into a dose? He listened, he started to his feet, he looked about him, and waited for a flash of flame from the fire to fall on the faces of the camel-drivers who stood around it. It came; the flame flickering up at first, and then, all at once, blazing out. It flashed upon the face of the camel-driver who stood stooping over it, and it lit up the face of Ali's father!

8. The father had waited at Suez many days, won-

dering why Ali did not come with the camel, and then thinking there had been some mistake, he had determined at last to return home with the caravan,



which was starting for Gaza. We need hardly describe the joy of both father and son at thus meeting each other in the desert, nor the pleasure with which the father listened to the history of all the fears and dangers to which his young son had been exposed. He was glad too, that their precious Meek-eye had been saved.

9. There was no camel-driver in the whole caravan so happy as Hassan, when, the next morning, he continued his journey to Gaza in company with *Meek-eye* and his beloved son Ali.

dawn, break.

fiery ball, the sun.

faint, weak.

verdure, greenness.

browsed, fed.

dose, a short nap.

circle, ring.

permission, leave.

fan-ci-ed

ad-mir-ed

at-ten-dants

mis-take

dou-bling

fa-vour-ite

fu-el

pleas-ure

di-rec-tion

u-su-al

flick-er-ing

be-lov-ed

How long did Ali continue his journey? What is the great fiery ball? How did Ali feel as the day grew hotter? What made him take fresh courage? What did Ali do when he had quenched his thirst? How did he satisfy his hunger? What did he notice while eating his dates? In what direction did he travel? What did he see in the distance? What did he ask permission of the camel-drivers to do? What was Ali's pillow? What aroused him from his sleep? Whose voice did he hear? How did Hassan feel at meeting his son?

 THE HONEST BIRD.

1. Once on a time a little bird
 Within a wicker cage was heard,
 In mournful tones, these words to sing:
 "In vain I stretch my useless wing;
 Still round and round I vainly fly,
 And strive in vain for liberty.
 Dear Liberty, how sweet thou art!"
 The prisoner sings with breaking heart:
 "All other things I'd give for thee,
 Nor ask one joy but liberty."

2. He sang so sweet, a little mouse,
 That often ran about the house,
 Came to his cage; her cunning ear
 She turns the mournful bird to hear.
 Soon as he ceased, "Suppose," said she,
 "I could contrive to set you free,
 Would you those pretty wings give me!"
3. The cage was in the window seat,
 The sky was blue, the air was sweet,
 The bird in eagerness replied:
 "Oh yes, my wings, and see, beside,
 These seeds and apples, and sugar too,
 All, pretty mouse, I'll give to you,
 If you will only set me free;
 For O! I pant for liberty."
4. The mouse soon gnawed a hole; the bird
 In ecstasy forgot his word;
 Swift as an arrow, see he flies,
 Far up, far up, towards the skies;
 But see, he stops, now he descends,
 Towards the cage his course he bends.
5. "Kind mouse," said he, "behold me now
 Returned to keep my foolish vow;
 I only longed for freedom then,
 Nor thought to want my wings again.
 Better with life itself to part,
 Than living have a faithless heart;
 Do with me therefore as you will,
 An honest bird I will be still."

6. His heart seemed full, no more he said,
 He drooped his wing and hung his head.
 The mouse, though very pert and smart,
 Had yet a very tender heart;
 She minced a little, turned about,
 Then thus her sentiments spoke out—
7. “I don’t care much about your wings—
 Apples and cakes are better things;
 You love the clouds, I choose the house;
 Wings would look queer upon a mouse;
 My nice long tail is better far,
 So keep your wings just where they are.”
8. She minced some apples, gave a smack,
 Then ran into a little crack.
 The bird spread out its wings and flew,
 And vanished in the sky’s deep blue,
 Far up his joyful song he poured,
 And sang of freedom as he soared.

wicker, made of twigs.
 mournful, sad.
 prisoner, bird caged up.
 contrive, manage.

ecstasy, great delight.
 descends, comes down.
 sentiments, thoughts.
 soared, flew high up.

stretch	mourn-ful	re-turn-ed	sen-ti-ments
wick-er	cun-ning	faith-less	minc-ed
lib-er-ty	ea-ger-ness	free-dom	van-ish-ed



DANIEL WEBSTER'S FIRST CASE.

1. Daniel Webster was a very celebrated lawyer in America. His father was a farmer. The crops of the garden had suffered very much from the ravages of a woodchuck, whose hole was near the premises.

2. Daniel, some ten or twelve years old, and his brother Ezekiel, had set a steel trap, and succeeded in catching the trespasser. Ezekiel proposed to kill the animal and end at once all further trouble with him; but Daniel looked with pity upon the meek dumb captive, and offered to let him go. The boys could not agree, and each appealed to his father to decide the case.

3. "Well, my boys," said the old gentleman, "I will be judge. There is the prisoner," pointing to the woodchuck, "and you shall be the counsel, and plead the case for and against his life and liberty."

4. Ezekiel opened the case with a strong argument, urging the mischievous nature of the criminal, the great harm he had already done—said that much time and labour had been spent in his capture, and now if he was suffered to live and go again large, he would renew his depredations, and cunning enough not to suffer himself to be caught again, and therefore he ought to be put to death. He argued further that his skin was of some value, and that, make the most of him they could, it would not repay half the damage he had already done.

5. His argument was ready, practical, and to

point, and of much greater length than our limits will allow us to occupy in relating the story.

The father looked with pride upon his son, who became a distinguished jurist in his manhood.

"Now, Daniel, it's your turn; I'll hear what you have to say."

6. It was his first case. Daniel saw that the plea



of his brother had sensibly affected his father, the judge. The boy's large, brilliant black eyes looked upon the soft, timid expression of the animal, and as he saw it tremble with fear in its narrow prison-house, his heart swelled with pity, and he appealed with eloquent words that the captive might again go free.

7. God, he said, had made the woodchuck; he made him to live, to enjoy the bright sunshine, the
(8)

pure air, the free fields and woods. God has not made him or anything in vain; the woodchuck has as much right to live as any other living thing. He was not a destructive animal, as the wolf and the fox; he simply ate a few common vegetables, of which they had plenty, and could well spare a part; he destroyed nothing, except the little food he needed to sustain his humble life; and that little food was as sweet to him, and as necessary to his existence, as was the food on their mother's table to them.

8. God furnished their own food; he gave them all they possessed; and would they not spare a little for the dumb creature that really had as much right to his small share of God's bounty as they themselves had to their portion? Yea, more, the animal had never violated the laws of his nature or the laws of God, as man often did; but strictly followed the simple instincts he had received from the hands of the Creator of all things. Created by God's hand, he had a right from God to life, to food, to liberty; and they had no right to deprive him of either.

9. He alluded to the mute but earnest pleadings of the animal for that life, as sweet, as dear to him as their own was to them; and the just judgment they might expect, if, in selfish cruelty and cold-heartedness, they took the life they could not restore, the life that God alone had given.

10. During this appeal tears had started to the old man's eyes, and were fast running down his sun-burnt cheeks. Every feeling of a father's heart was

stirred within him; he saw the future greatness of his son before his eyes, and he felt that God had blessed him and his children beyond the lot of common men.

11. His pity and sympathy were awakened by the eloquent words of compassion, and the strong appeal for mercy, and, forgetting the judge in the man and father, he sprang from his chair (while Daniel was in the midst of his argument, without thinking he had already won his case), and turning to his elder son, dashing the tears from his eyes, he exclaimed—*"Zeke, Zeke, let that woodchuck go!"*

woodchuck, an American
animal of the rabbit kind.
celebrated, famous.
ravages, destruction.
captive, prisoner.

mischievous, harmful.
depredations, robberies.
relating, telling.
jurist, one versed in law.
brilliant, very bright.

wood-chuck	tres-pass-er	mis-chiev-ous	re-lat-ing
cel-e-bra-ted	pro-pos-ed	de-pre-da-tions	sen-si-bly
suf-fer-ed	pris-on-er	ar-gu-ment	ex-pres-sion

What was Daniel Webster? Where did he live? How old was he at this time? What had the woodchuck done? Who wanted to kill it? What did their father say? Who began the pleadings before him? How was the judge affected? Who did Daniel say made the woodchuck? What did the woodchuck eat? How was the judge affected by Daniel's pleadings? What did he say at last?



A STORM AT SEA.

1. A terrible storm is sweeping along the coast of Devonshire. The Teignmouth life-boat is preparing to make its way to a foreign vessel which, at some short distance from the land, is showing signs of dire distress.

2. The life-boat crew is complete with the exception of one man. Young Ned Carey, a Teignmouth fisher lad and an expert sailor, is offering to fill the vacant place. But first he bends down gently to a woman who stands beside him, and says to her in a clear, brave voice, "Mother, you will let me go?"

3. The mother had been a widow only six months. Her husband was a fisherman. He put out one bright day last spring for the last time in a fishing-boat upon a calm sea. A sudden squall came on; broken fragments of the boat were seen next morning, but the fisherman returned no more.

4. A fierce refusal rises to the woman's lips. But her sad eyes move slowly towards the distressed vessel. She thinks of the many loved lives in danger within it, and of many distant homes in peril of bereavement. She turns to her boy, and in a voice calm and courageous as his own, "Go, my son," said she, "and may God bring you safe back to your mother's heart."

5. Hurriedly she leaves the beach, and seeks her desolate home; and alone she thinks of her old sorrow and of her new fear.

6. Morning dawns again. The storm has spent *itself*. The waves are tossing their heads, but the

worst fury of the sea is over. A fine vessel has gone down upon the waters, but the Teignmouth life-boat



has nobly fulfilled its noble task, and all hands on board the vessel have been saved.

7. Why does Ned Carey linger in hesitation outside his mother's door? He has shown himself the bravest of the brave throughout the night. Why does he shrink from the proud welcome that awaits him from the heart nearest to his own?

8. Beside him stands a tall worn man; a man whom he has rescued from a watery grave; a man whose eyes, full of tenderness, never leave his own. Around the two, throng Teignmouth villagers. Many hands are thrust towards the man in happy recognition. "Who will dare to tell her?" So speaks a voice well nigh choked with emotion. "I

will." And Ned Carey in another moment is in his mother's arms.

9. "Mother, listen. I have a tale for your ears. One of the men saved last night is a Teignmouth fisherman. A fearful storm had overtaken him upon the sea several months ago. He was observed and saved by a foreign vessel. The vessel was outward bound. Away from home, from wife, from friends, the man was forced to sail. By his wife and friends he was mourned as dead.

10. "He arrived at the vessel's destined port only to set sail again with the first ship bound for England. Last night he found himself within sight of home; but a storm was raging on sea and land, and once more the man stood face to face with a terrible death. Help came in his need. Mother, try to bear the happy truth.

11. "When your brave heart—a heart which in the midst of its own sorrow could feel for the sorrows of others, sent me forth last night, you knew not—how should you know—that you sent me to the rescue of my dear father's life." Not another word is spoken. A step is heard; the rescued man stands by his own fireside. With a cry of wild joy the mother rushes forward and falls into his arms.

dire, fearful.
expert, clever.
fragment, pieces.
refusal, denial.
bereavement, being de-
prived of friends by death.
desolate, lonely.

dawns, breaks.
hesitation, doubt.
rescued, saved.
recognition, knowing
again.
observed, noticed.
mourned, grieved for.

squall	sor-rows	out-ward	of-fer-ing
fierce	brav-est	rag-ing	fish-er-man
for-eign	wel-come	com-plete	dis-tress-ed
sail-or	res-cue	ter-ri-ble	cour-age-ous
no-bly	near-est	pre-par-ed	hur-ri-ed-ly
ves-sel	fear-ful	ex-cep-tion	ful-fil-led

Where was the storm raging? Why was the Teign-mouth life-boat required? Who was Ned Carey? Who was standing near him? What did he say to her? Why did his mother hesitate? How did she afterwards reply? What became of the vessel? How did the life-boat crew nobly fulfil their task? Who was the tall worn man that was saved? How was the news made known to Ned's mother?

THE HOME OF MY YOUTH.

1. Home of my youth! with fond delight
On thee doth recollection dwell.
Home of my youth! how gaily bright
The scenes that childhood loved so well!
2. Lot of my father! well I know
The spot that saw my infant dawn;
Near the green lane, the old elm-row,
The village spire, the grassy lawn.
3. O sweet to me the laughing hours,
When earth seem'd gay, and heaven was fair:
When fancy cull'd her thornless flowers,
And pleasure reign'd, devoid of care.

4. Home of my youth! my heart, away,
 Recalls those moments dear to me:
 Often in dreams will memory stray,
 Home of my youth! to weep o'er thee.

delight, pleasure	cull'd, gathered
recollection, remem- brance.	devoid, free from
scenes, sights.	recalls, brings back
dawn, birth	stray, wander.

gayly	village	dow-ers	a-way
child-hood	laugh-ing	pleas-ure	dreams
in-fant	thorn-less	reign-ed	mem-o-ry

THE EAGLE.

1. There are a great many species of eagles, but the most celebrated is the golden eagle. This fine bird, although extinct in England, is still found in the Highlands of Scotland, and Ireland, and is not unfrequently met with in all the northern part of the globe. The colour of the greater part of the body is a rich blackish-brown. The head and neck are covered with feathers of a golden red which give to the bird its name. The tail is deep gray, streaked regularly with dark brown. The legs, which are of a gray-brown colour, are feathered to the very toes.

2. The eagle is furnished with a strong hooked beak, with toes covered with scales, and with strong hooked claws. Owing to great strength

wing, its flight is described as majestic and powerful in the extreme. It sweeps through the air in a succession of spiral curves, rising with every curve, and making no perceptible motion with its wings, until it has attained a height where it is scarcely visible.

3. But although so high, its sight is so powerful that it can clearly distinguish objects beneath, for



often it has been observed to sweep down with lightning-like rapidity, and, seizing its prey in its powerful talons, carry it off. The eagle disdains the smaller victims sought after by the hawk and owl. It seldom feeds on carrion, except when pressed by hunger, but gains its living chiefly by the pro-

10. The eagle was regarded by the ancient Greeks as the bird of Jupiter, the carrier of the lightning, and thereby expressive of sole dominion. In this sense it has been used as the symbol of nations and cities, and kings and armies. Napoleon chose the Roman eagle as his banner. America, Austria, Prussia, Russia, Spain, and a number of other smaller nations, display it on their flags. All this goes to prove that man instinctively admires courage and aspires to dominion.

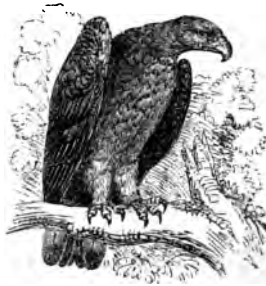
species, kinds.
celebrated, noted.
extinct, died out.
spiral, screw-like.
perceptible, visible.
attained, reached.
visible, seen.
talons, claws.
disdains, despises.
carrion, decayed flesh.

consternation, terror.
Ben Nevis, a mountain
in Inverness-shire in
Scotland.
despair, loss of hope.
eaglets, little eagles.
inaccessible, not to be
reached.
symbol, distinguishing
mark.

reg-u-lar-ly	dis-tin-guish	un-in-jur-ed	pro-vi-sion
de-scrib-ed	pro-ducts	scream-ing	ex-er-cise
suc-ces-sion	res-cued	de-scent	do-min-i-on
height	pur-suit	pounc-ing	in-stinc-tive-ly

Which is the most celebrated kind of eagle? Where is it still found? Describe the colour of the body, head and neck, and tail. What kind of beak and toes has this bird? How has its flight been described? How does it sweep through the air? What kind of sight has it? When will it only eat carrion? What birds and animals

does it often carry off? Describe briefly the story of the eagle carrying off a baby to its nest. Where is Ben Nevis? What sometimes happens to the eagle when trying to take a fish out of the water? Where does the eagle make its nest? How many eggs are laid? How do the parent eagles teach their young to fly? What did Sir Humphry Davy once see on Ben Nevis? How did the Greeks regard the eagle? What nations have chosen it for their symbol? What does it symbolize?



TEA.

1. The tea-plant is a native of China and Japan. It is a small evergreen shrub, much branched, and covered with a rough dark bark. It bears some resemblance to the camellia, which belongs to the same order of plants.

2. The leaves are oval, pointed at the ends, and of a dark green colour. The flowers are white, often two or three together, and placed at the bottom of the leaves.

3. The plant will grow on either low or elevated situations, but always thrives best, and furnishes leaves of the finest quality when produced in light stony ground. The leaves are gathered from one to four times during the year, according to the age of the tree.



4. Most commonly there are three periods of gathering; the first begins about the middle of April, the second at midsummer, and the last in August or September. The leaves that are earliest gathered are of the most delicate colour, of the most aromatic flavour, and contain the least portion of either fibre or bitterness.

5. The leaves of the second gathering are of a dull green colour, and have less valuable qualities than the former; whilst those of the last gathering are of a dark colour, and possess an inferior value. The quality of the leaves is also influenced by the age of the tree, and the degrees of exposure to which it has been accustomed. Leaves from young wood and from trees most exposed are always the best.

6. The leaves as soon as they are gathered are put *into wide shallow baskets*, and exposed to the air

and sunshine for some hours. They are then placed on a flat cast-iron pan, over a stove heated with charcoal. From a half to three quarters of a pound of leaves are operated upon at one time.

7. The leaves are stirred quickly about for some time with a kind of brush, and are then swept off into a basket.

8. The next process which the leaves undergo is that of rolling, which is effected by carefully rubbing them between men's hands. They are then placed upon the iron pan, and subjected again to heat, but at a much lower temperature, just sufficient to dry them effectually, without the risk of scorching them.

9. When this process is finished, the leaves are thrown upon a table and carefully picked over.

Every unsightly or imperfectly dried leaf that is detected, is removed from the rest in order that the sample may present a better appearance when offered for sale.

10. With some of the finer sorts of tea a different process is adopted; the heated plates are dispensed with, and the leaves are carefully rolled into balls, leaf by leaf with the hands.

11. There are many varieties of the tea-plant, and in China several sorts of tea are used, mostly named after the districts in which they are grown. In our own country, however, tea is generally divided into two sorts—black and green, which were at one time believed to be obtained from entirely different plants. It is now known, however, that both sorts grow on *the same tree*, and that the difference in

colour is only the result of two different methods of treating the leaves.

12. In the preparation of green tea, the leaves are roasted almost immediately after they are gathered, and dried as quickly as possible. In black teas, on the contrary, the whole process is retarded, and the leaves are exposed to the air until they become soft and flaccid, when they are finally dried slowly over charcoal fires.

13. The chemical changes induced under these different conditions account for both the difference in colour and in the quality of black and green tea.

14. The people of China partake of tea at all their meals, and frequently at other times of the day. They drink it without either milk or sugar.

15. Formerly all teas imported into Europe were brought from China, but now large supplies are received from our possessions in India. It was thought by many that the tea-plant would thrive on the slopes of the Himalaya Mountains in India, and many thousands of plants were imported from China. These have been so successfully cultivated, that tea of a very superior quality is grown, and commands a high price in the market. Being of a strong description, it is principally bought by merchants for mixing with the low sorts of Chinese teas so as to raise their quality.

16. Two hundred and fifty years ago tea was unknown in Europe. It had been used in China from the earliest ages, and was common enough in India, Persia, and Tartary. It was first brought to Europe by the Dutch, who imported it as a drug; indeed

one of their physicians commended it as a sure cure for many complaints.

17. It was first introduced into England in the year 1664, but its price made it a curiosity. It is recorded that the East India Company paid £2 for two ounces of tea, which they presented to Charles the Second. For some years after 1664, tea was sold for sixty shillings per pound, and for a long time the rich only could afford to buy it.

18. Now its use is almost universal, and more than 80,000,000 lbs. are imported into this country annually. Its importation employs a large capital and numerous shipping, and so important is this article reckoned, that its fall or rise in price is looked upon with anxiety by the poorest individual in the nation.

evergreen, always green.

resemblance, likeness.

periods, different times.

aromatic, sweet scented.

flaccid, flabby.

fibre, woody portion.

accustomed, used.

temperature, degree of heat.

sufficient, enough.

detected, observed.

varieties, sorts.

frequently, often.

retarded, kept back.

shallow, not deep.

principally, chiefly.

capital, money laid out in trade.

imported, brought in.

na-tive

branch-ed

scorch-ing

e-nough

qual-i-ty

(e)

pro-duc-ed

del-i-cate

ex-pos-ure

ef-fect-ed

sub-ject-ed

ap-pear-ance

a-dopt-ed

dis-pens-ed

ob-tain-ed

re-cord-ed

in-fe-ri-or

im-per-fect-ly

u-ni-ver-sal

ef-fect-u-al-ly

in-di-vid-u-al

g

nu-mer-ous	de-scrip-tion	re-ceiv-ed	suc-cess-ful-ly
cov-er-ed	fin-ish-ed	ca-mel-lia	cu-ri-o-si-ty
fur-nish-ed	un-sight-ly	el-e-vat-ed	phys-i-cian



Name the countries of which the tea plant is a native. What kind of a tree is it? What sort of bark has it? What plant grown in this country does it resemble? Describe the shape and colour of the leaves. What colour are the flowers, and where are they placed? Where does the plant grow in China? What ground is best suited for it? How many times a year are the leaves gathered? When is the first gathering? When is the second? When does the third and last take place? Which gathering of the leaves is the most valuable? Into what two sorts is the tea used in this country divided? How is black tea made? How is green? In what other part of the world is tea now grown? What sort of tea is produced there? How many years ago is it since tea was unknown in this country? How long has it been

used in China? What nation first brought it to Europe? How much per ounce was given for some for a present to Charles the Second? What was the price per pound or many years afterwards? How much is imported into his country annually?

GUSTAVUS III. AND THE POOR GIRL.

1. There was a good King of Sweden called Gustavus the Third, who died in 1792, after a reign of twenty-one years. One morning he was riding through a village near Stockholm, the capital of his kingdom. Seeing a young girl at a fountain getting water, he asked her for the favour of a drink. Without knowing who was addressing her, she stepped forward, and lifted her pitcher to his lips.

2. The ready kindness of the girl, her artless manner, and her poor appearance, drew the king's heart towards her. He told her if she would come to live in the city, he would place her in a more agreeable and comfortable position in life.

3. "Ah! good sir," answered the girl, "I am not anxious to forsake the position in which Providence has placed me; and even if I were, I would not leave my home to accept your offer."

"And why not?" replied the king, with some surprise.

4. "Because," said the girl, "my mother is poor and sickly, and I am the only one she has to take care

of her, and comfort her. Nothing that could be offered would induce me to leave her."

"Your mother," replied the king, "and where is she?"

"In this little cabin," was the reply, the girl at the same time pointing to a very humble dwelling close at hand.

5. Gustavus descended from his horse, and went with the girl into the cabin to see her mother. There he found her lying upon a bed of straw. She was aged and sinking under her infirmities. His kind heart was moved, and he said to the woman, "I feel very sorry, mother, to find you so destitute and afflicted."

6. "Yes, dear sir, I am poor and sick," she replied in a feeble tone, "and should be distressed indeed, but for the affectionate attention of my dear daughter, who labours and strives to support and comfort me, and omits no effort for my relief. May God remember it to her for her good," she added, as her hand wiped away the tears which now rolled down her cheeks.

7. The good king was deeply affected. Then handing the daughter a purse of gold, and directing the poor family to a better house, he said to the girl, "Still, my young friend, go on taking the same care of your mother, and you shall not fail to have my help. Trust my word. I am your king. Good bye."

8. On reaching his home Gustavus made provision to have a sum of money regularly paid to the woman *as long as she might live*; and when her death oc-

d, he remembered the daughter with a rich en-
 nent.

ss, simple.	relief, ease from pain.
ce, persuade.	affected, moved.
nities, weaknesses.	directing, showing.
tute, without means.	endowment, permanent
ted, troubled.	income.

foun-tain	com-fort-a-ble	re-mem-ber
g sur-prise	po-si-tion	dis-tress-ed
ing daugh-ter	an-swer-ed	af-fec-tion-ate
ing ap-pear-ance	de-scend-ed	reg-u-lar-ly
al a-gree-a-ble	at-ten-tion	pro-vi-sion

What was the name of the good king of Sweden?
 How did he die? How long did he reign? Whom did
 he see one day at a fountain in a village near Stockholm?
 What favour did he ask of the girl? How did she grant it?
 How was it that drew the king's heart towards her?
 What offer did he make to her? How did she reply?
 How long did the girl's mother live? When the king saw
 her, what did he say to her? How did she reply to him?
 How was the king deeply affected? What did he give
 the girl? How did he encourage the girl further?
 How did the king make provision for the mother? How
 did he afterwards provide for the girl?



DO SOMETHING.

1. If the world seems cold to you,
Kindle fires to warm it!
Let their comfort hide from view
Winters that deform it.
Hearts as frozen as your own,
To that radiance gather;
You will soon forget to moan,
"Ah, the cheerless weather!"
2. If the world's "a wilderness,"
Go, build houses in it!
Will it help your loneliness,
On the winds to din it?
Raise a hut, however slight;
Weeds and brambles smother,
And to roof and meal invite
Some forlorn brother.
3. If the world's a "vale of tears,"
Smile, till rainbows span it;
Breathe the love that life endears;
Clear from clouds to fan it.
Of your gladness lend a gleam,
Unto souls that shiver;
Show them how dark sorrow's stream
Blends with hope's bright river!

kindle, light up.**radiance**, brightness.**deform**, spoil the shape.**wilderness**, desert place.

com-fort win-ters

de-form froz-en

ra-di-ance cheer-less

wea-ther lone-li-ness

bram-bles mo-ther

for-lorn-er glad-ness



THE WHITE STORK.

1. This bird is very similar to the crane, which is common in some parts of this country. It is a migratory bird, and passes the winter in the north of Africa, more particularly in Egypt. In spring it migrates to France, Holland, Sweden, Germany, and Poland.

2. It is very rarely met with in England or Scotland. It measures about three feet from the end of the bill to the tip of the tail, and its height from the ground to the top of its head is about the same.

3. Its bill is usually of an orange-red colour, and measures from seven to eight inches in length. The naked and wrinkled skin surrounding its eyes is nearly of the same colour, but of a duskier hue, and the legs are also red.

4. The greater part of the plumage is a clear white. This is, however, relieved by the striking

contrast of the feathers covering the lower part of the shoulders, the larger wing coverts, and the quill feathers, thirty in number, all of which are of a glossy black, with a slight metallic reflection.

5. When fully expanded the extent of the wings exceeds six feet. The feathers of the lower part of the neck are long and pointed. There is little distinction in these particulars between the male and female, but the younger birds have a browner tinge on their wings, and their bills are of a duskier red.

6. The food of these birds consists chiefly of frogs, serpents, lizards, and other noxious animals. They have been regarded in all ages with peculiar favour. In some countries they are almost venerated, on account of the services which they perform in the destruction of noxious animals, in ridding the earth of impurities, also on account of the mildness of their tempers, and the harmlessness of their habits.

7. Amongst the ancient Egyptians the stork was regarded with a reverence inferior only to that which was, for a similar reason, paid to the sacred ibis.

8. The same feeling is still prevalent in many parts of Africa and the East. In Switzerland and Holland it is received by the people as a welcome guest, indeed, in the latter country the services which it renders in keeping the dykes clear of the enormous quantity of reptiles engendered by the humidity of the air and fertility of the soil, has *earned* for it the gratitude of the nation.

9. The stork is very friendly to man. Undismayed by his presence it builds its nest upon the house-top, or on the summits of the loftiest trees in the immediate neighbourhood of the most frequented places. It walks, perfectly at ease, along the busiest streets of the most crowded town, and seeks its food on the banks of the rivers, or in fens in close vicinity to the abode of man.

10. In numerous parts of Holland its nest, built on the chimney-top, remains undisturbed for many successive years, and the owners constantly return with unerring sagacity to the well-known spot. The joy which the birds manifest in taking possession of their old dwelling, and the attachment which they show towards their benevolent hosts, are familiar to all who dwell in these districts.

11. The affection which they show for their young, is one of the most remarkable features in their character. At the town of Delft, in Holland, a house, on the top of which was a nest of storks, took fire. The female stork, after many repeated and unsuccessful attempts to carry off her young to a place of safety, chose rather to perish with them than leave them to their fate.

12. The female generally lays from two to four eggs of a dingy, yellowish white, rather larger than that of a goose. She sits on them for more than a month, the male bird taking her place when she goes abroad to seek her food. When the young birds are hatched, they are carefully fed by their parents, who watch over them with the closest anxiety.

13. As soon as they become capable of flying, the parents exercise them by degrees, carrying them at first upon their own wings and then conducting them in short circular flights around their nest.

14. When in search of food, the stork is generally seen in its usual attitude of repose standing on one leg, with its long neck bent backwards, its head resting on its shoulder, and its eye steadily fixed.

15. The large extent of the wings of the stork and the comparative lightness of its body, are admirably adapted to the lofty pitch at which it flies, and to its long continuance on the wing.

16. Storks generally migrate about the beginning of August, the preparations for their departure usually occupying several weeks. They gradually assemble in one spot from the whole of the surrounding district to the number of many hundreds,



making, when they meet, that peculiar clattering with their beaks which appears to serve them in place of voice.

17. As soon as their number is completed, they *mount at once* into the air without noise or confu-

sion, and are speedily lost sight of in the loftiness of their flight. They return to Europe in smaller bands in March or April.

similar, like.

crane, a large water bird.

duskier, darker.

hue, colour.

plumage, feathers.

expanded, spread out.

assemble, to meet together.

migrates, removes from one place to another.

venerated, regarded with religious respect.

ancient, old.

enormous, very great.

engendered, caused by.

humidity, dampness.

benevolent, kind.

repose, rest.

vicinity, neighbourhood.

ibis, an Egyptian bird.

con- trast	sur- rounding	re- peat -ed	par- tic-u-lar -ly
cov- erts	re- liev -ed	al- ti -tude	im- pu-rit -ies
nox- ious	re- flec -tion	us- u-al -ly	fer- til-i -ty
hatch- ed	re- gard -ed	e- nor-mous	com- par-a -tive
me- tal-lic	at- tach -ment	en- gen-der -ed	com- tin-u -ance

What water bird found in this country does the stork resemble? Where does the stork pass the winter? To what countries does it migrate in spring? What is the height of the bird? What is the colour of the bill? What is the food of these birds? Why are they almost venerated by the people in the countries where they are found? Name some country in Europe where they are specially welcomed by the people. In what places do they build their nests? How many eggs do they lay? How are the young birds taught to fly? In what month of the year do they leave Holland? Describe the manner in which they migrate.



THE STREAMLET.

1. I saw a little streamlet flow
 Along a peaceful vale,
 A thread of silver, soft and slow,
 It wandered down the dale;
 Just to do good it seemed to move,
 Directed by the hand of love.
2. The valley smiled in living green ;
 A tree, which near it gave
 From noontide heat a friendly screen,
 Drank from its limpid wave.
 The swallow brushed it with her wing,
 And followed its meandering.

3. But not alone to plant and bird
 That little stream was known,
 Its gentle murmur far was heard—
 A friend's familiar tone:
 It glided by the cotter's door,
 It blessed the labour of the poor.
4. And would that I could thus be found,
 While travelling life's brief way,
 A humble friend to all around,
 Where'er my footsteps stray.
 Like that pure stream, with tranquil breast,
 Like it, still blessing, and still blest.

streamlet, a small stream. | **tranquil**, quiet.
meandering, wandering. | **familiar**, well known.

swal-low	lim-pid	peace-ful	tra-vel-ling
brush-ed	sil-ver	friend-ly	fol-low-ed
la-bour	seem-ed	di-rect-ed	fam-il-i-ar

COFFEE.

1. The coffee tree is a beautiful evergreen shrub, seldom exceeding twelve feet in height. It is very slender, and at the upper part divides into long trailing branches. The bark is almost smooth, and of a brown colour.
2. The leaves are three or four inches in length, oval in form, and pointed at the end. They are of a brilliant green colour. The flowers are white, and

in form not unlike those of the jessamine tree. The flower emits a most agreeable perfume, more pleasant even than the scent of an orange grove.

3. The fruit which succeeds the flower is a red berry resembling a cherry, having a pale insipid



pulp, inclosing two hard oval seeds each about the size of a small bean.

4. One side of the seed is convex, while the other is flat and has a little straight furrow running through its longest dimension. While growing, the flat sides of the seeds are towards each other.

5. The trees begin bearing when they are two years old. The produce of a good tree is from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 pounds of berries. The aspect of a coffee plantation during the period of flowering, which does not *last longer than one or two days*, is very interesting.

In one night the blossoms expand themselves so profusely, as to present the same appearance, which has sometimes been witnessed in England, when a casual snow storm in the autumn covers the trees with snow.

6. The tree is a native of Arabia, and is most carefully cultivated there. The coffee tree is raised from seed, which the natives sow in nursery gardens, and plant out when required. They choose for their plantations a moist shady situation on a small eminence, or at the foot of the mountains. They take great care to conduct little rills of water from the high ground in small channels to the roots of the trees.

7. It is very necessary that the trees should be constantly watered, in order to produce and ripen the fruit. In places much exposed to the south, the coffee trees are planted in regular lines, sheltered by a kind of poplar tree, which extends its branches to a great distance every way, and protects them from the intense heat of the sun. The seeds are known to be ripe when the berries assume a dark red colour, and if not then gathered, will drop from the trees.

8. The planters in Arabia do not pluck the fruit but shake the trees, and the ripened fruit drops readily on mats which are spread beneath. The fruit is afterwards exposed to the sun's rays until it is perfectly dry, when the husk is broken with large heavy rollers made of wood or stone.

9. The seeds thus cleared of the husk are dried thoroughly in the sun, that they may not be liable to heat when *packed for shipment*.

10. The method of gathering coffee employed in the West India plantations differs from that in Arabia. When the berries are sufficiently ripe they are picked by the hand. For this purpose a canvas bag, having an iron ring or hoop at its mouth to keep it always open, is provided. This is hung round a man's neck so as to leave both hands at liberty. When the trees are in full bearing, an industrious man will often pick three bushels in a day.

11. Before coffee is fit for use as food, however, it must be roasted, and this roasting is a process which requires some nicety. If burnt, much of the fine aromatic flavour will be destroyed, and a disagreeable bitter taste substituted.

12. Coffee roasting is now usually performed in a cylindrical vessel, which is continually turned upon its axis over the fire, in order to prevent the too great heating of any one part, and to keep up a continual shifting of the contents.

13. Coffee should not be kept for any length of time after it is roasted, and should never be ground until the moment it is required for use, as much of its fine flavour will be lost.

14. The use of coffee as a beverage dates only from modern times. In 1615, mention is made of its use in a letter sent from Constantinople, and in the year 1652, the first coffee-house was opened in London. Since that period, it has become, next to tea, the favourite beverage of most civilized countries in the world.

15. Coffee is the favourite drink in France, Ger-

many, Sweden, and Turkey. In the last-named country its use by all classes of the people is very great. The Turks drink their coffee very hot and strong, and without sugar.

evergreen, always green
like the holly.

trailing, hanging down.

emits, sends out.

resembling, like.

insipid, without any
taste.

cylindrical, like a drum
or garden roller.

axis, the rod running
through the middle.

civilized, refined.

shrub, a small bushy tree.

period, time.

expand, to spread out.

profusely, abundantly.

eminence, rising ground.

necessary, needful.

aromatic, agreeable.

substituted, put in its
place.

beverage, drink.

per-fume beau-ti-ful

pleas-ant ex-ceed-ing

fur-row bril-li-ant

pro-duce jes-sa-mine

chan-nels in-clos-ing

in-tense plan-ta-tion

di-men-sions des-troy-ed

ap-pear-ance ri-pen-ed

wit-ness-ed cul-ti-vat-ed

oc-ca-sion suf-fi-cient-ly

shel-ter-ed in-dus-tri-ous

ex-pos-ed in-ter-est-ing

What is the coffee tree? How high does it grow? How is the upper part of the tree divided? Describe its bark. What is the length of the leaves? What colour are they? What colour are the flowers? What flowers grown in this country do they resemble? What sort of scent do the coffee flowers emit? What is the colour of the fruit? What fruit does it resemble? What taste has the pulp? How many seeds are inclosed? What is found on one of the sides of the seeds? When do the trees begin bearing? *How much* coffee does each tree produce?

How long does the flowering last? What country is the tree a native of? What parts are chosen for the coffee plantations? If the ground is much exposed to the sun, how are the trees sheltered? How are the seeds known to be ripe? In what other parts of the world is coffee grown? How are they picked in the West India Islands? Before coffee can be used as a beverage what must first be done to the berries? How is the coffee roasted? In what countries is coffee the favourite drink? When was the use of coffee first mentioned?

THE GUIDE.

1. A wanderer who had to go a long and dangerous journey over a rugged and rocky mountain, knew not the way. He endeavoured to obtain some information from a traveller who, as he had learnt, had already passed over the same mountain.

2. The traveller pointed out the road to him clearly and distinctly, together with all the by-ways and precipices of which he must beware, and the rocks which he should climb; moreover he gave him a slip of paper, on which all these things were described exactly.

3. The wanderer observed all this attentively, and at each turn and by-path he considered carefully the instructions and description of his friend. Vigorously he proceeded; but, the more he advanced, the steeper the rocks appeared, and the path seemed to lose itself in the lonely dreary ravines.

4. Then his courage failed him; he looked up to

the towering gray rocks, and cried, "It is impossible for man to ascend so steep a path. and to climb



these rugged rocks. The wings of eagles and the feet of the mountain-goats alone can do it."

5. He turned away, thinking to return by the way he had come, when suddenly he heard a voice exclaiming, "Take courage and follow me!" He looked round, and to his joyful surprise he beheld the man who had pointed out the way to him. He saw him walk calmly and steadily between the ravines and precipices, and the rushing mountain torrents. This inspired *him with new confidence* and he followed.

Before night-fall they had ascended the mountain, and a lovely valley received them at the end of their journey.

6. Then the cheerful wanderer thanked his friend, and said, "How can I express my gratitude to thee? Thou hast not only guided me on the right way, but hast also given me strength and courage to persevere."

7. The other answered, "Not so; am I not a wanderer like thyself, and art thou not the same man as before? Thou hast only seen by my example what thou art, and what thou art able to do."

rugged, rough.
distinctly, clearly.
precipices, great gaps
among the mountains.
observed, noticed.
vigorously, full of force
or strength.

proceeded, went forward.
ravines, long deep hollows.
inspired, encouraged.
confidence, firm belief.
gratitude, thanks.

jour-ney	dan-ger-ous	as-cend-ed	ap-pear-ed
cour-age	trav-el-ler	ex-claim-ing	grat-i-tude
sur-prise	ex-act-ly	stead-i-ly	in-form-a-tion
cheer-ful	care-ful-ly	per-se-vere	at-ten-tive-ly
guid-ed	ad-vanc-ed	in-struc-tion	con-sil-er-ed
wan-der-er	tow-er-ing	de-scrip-tion	im-pos-si-ble

Where had the wanderer to go? Whom did he ask to show him the way? Describe how the traveller helped him? When did the wanderer's courage fail him? What did he say? When he turned round to go back what did he hear? Who uttered the words that he heard? What *did he then do*? How long was it before they had finished

ir journey? What did the wanderer then say to the
le? How did the guide reply?

LET IT PASS.

1. Be not swift to take offence;
 Let it pass!
Anger is a foe to sense;
 Let it pass!
Brood not darkly o'er a wrong
Which will disappear ere long;
Rather sing this cheery song,
 Let it pass!
2. Strife corrodes the purest mind;
 Let it pass!
As the unregarded wind,
 Let it pass!
Any vulgar souls that live
May condemn without reprieve;
'Tis the noble who forgive.
 Let it pass!
3. Echo not an angry word;
 Let it pass!
Think how often you have erred;
 Let it pass!
Since our joys must pass away,
Like the dewdrops on their way,
Wherefore should our sorrows stay?
 Let them pass!

4. If for good you've taken ill,
 Let it pass!
 Oh! be kind and gentle still!
 Let it pass!
 Time at last makes all things straight;
 Let us not resent, but wait,
 And our triumph shall be great;
 Let it pass!
5. Bid your anger to depart;
 Let it pass!
 Lay these homely words to heart;
 Let it pass!
 Follow not the giddy throng;
 Better to be wronged than wrong;
 Therefore sing this cheery song,
 Let it pass!

foe, enemy.

corrodes, gnaws away.

condemn, declare to
 be guilty.

reprieve, keeping back
 the punishment.

erred, done wrong.

cheery, cheerful.

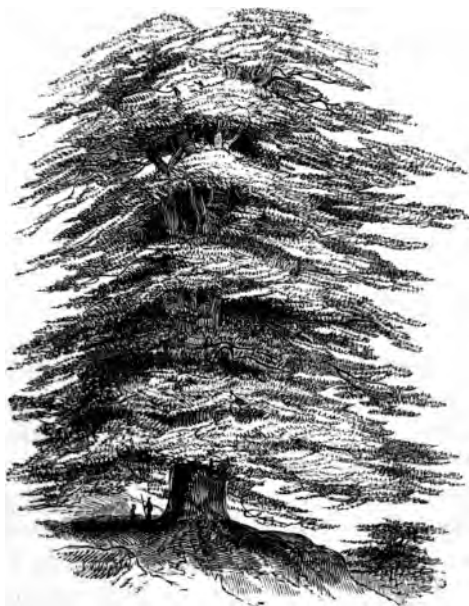
of-fence	dis-ap-pear	dew-drops	tri-umph
an-ger	pur-est	where-fore	wrong-ed

THE CEDAR OF LEBANON.

1. Many years ago, a Frenchman, who was travel-
 ling in the Holy Land, found a seedling among
 the cedars of Lebanon, which he longed to bring

away as a memorial of his travels. He took it up tenderly, with all the earth about its little roots, and, for want of a better flower-pot, planted it carefully in his hat; and there he kept it and tended it.

2. The voyage home was rough and tempestuous, and so much longer than usual, that the supply of



fresh water in the ship fell short; they were obliged to measure it out most carefully to each person. The captain was allowed two glasses a day; the sailors, who had the work of the ship on their hands, one glass each; and the poor passengers but half a

glass. In such a scarcity you may suppose the little cedar had no allowance at all.

3. But our friend the traveller felt for it as his child, and each day shared with it his small half glass of precious water; and so it was, that when the vessel arrived at the port, the traveller had drunk so little water that he was almost dying, and the young cedar had taken so much that, behold, it was a noble and fresh little tree, six inches high!

4. At the Custom-house, the officers, who are always suspicious of smuggling, wished to empty the hat; for they would not believe but that something more valuable lay hidden beneath the moist mould. They thought of lace or of diamonds, and began to thrust their fingers into the soil. But our poor traveller implored them so earnestly to spare his tree, and talked to them so eloquently of all that we read in the Bible of the cedar of Lebanon, telling them of David's House and Solomon's Temple, that the men's hearts were softened, and they suffered the young cedar to remain undisturbed in its strange dwelling.

5. From thence it was carried to Paris, and planted most carefully in the *Jardin des Plantes*. A large tile was set against it as a protection and a shade, and its name was written in Latin and placed in front, to tell all the world that it was something new and precious. The soil was good, and the tree grew—grew till it no longer needed the shelter of the tile, nor the dignified protection of the Latin inscription; grew till it was taller than its kind protector the traveller; grew till it could give shelter to a nurse

and her child, tired of walking about in the pleasant gardens, and glad of the coolness of the thick dark branches. The cedar grew larger and larger, and became the noblest tree there.

6. All the birds of the garden could have assembled in its branches; all the lions and tigers, and apes and bears, and panthers and elephants of the great menagerie close at hand, could have lain at ease under its shade. It became the tree of all the trees in the wide garden that the people loved the best; there, each Thursday, when the gardens were open to all the city, the blind people from their asylum used to ask to be brought under the cedar; there they would stand together and measure its great trunk, and guess how large and wide must be its branches. It was a pleasure to see them listening to the sweet songs of the birds overhead, and breathing in its fragrant eastern perfume.

7. There was once a prison at the end of these gardens, a dark and dismal and terrible place, where the unfortunate and the guilty were all mixed together in wretched confusion. The building was a lofty one, divided into many stories, and by the time the top was reached, one would be exhausted and breathless. The cells were as dreary and comfortless there as in those below; and yet those who could procure a little money by any means, gladly paid it to be allowed to rent one of these topmost

What was it that made them value this weary life? It was the sight of the cedar of Lebanon, and that forest of chimneys and that desert

plain of slates. With his cheeks pressed against the rusty bars, the poor debtor would pass hours looking upon it. It was the prisoner's garden, and he would console himself in the weariness of a long, rainy, sunless day, by the thought, "The cedar will look greener to-morrow." It was shown to every friend and visitor; and each felt it a comfort, in the midst of so much wretchedness, to see it.

9. Who will not grieve for the fate of the cedar of Lebanon? It had grown and flourished for a hundred years, for cedars do not need centuries, like the oak, to attain their highest growth, when, just as its hundredth year was attained, the noble, the beautiful tree was cut down to make room for a railway! Such things, it seems, must be; and we must not grieve too much or complain at any of the changes that pass around us in this world of changes; yet we cannot but feel sorry for the cedar of Lebanon.

memorial, reminder.

tempestuous, very stormy.

suspicious, doubtful.

Jardin des Plantes, a beautiful public garden in Paris.

menagerie, a place where wild animals are kept.

diamonds, costly jewels.

inscription, writing.

attain, reach.

Lebanon, a range of mountains in Syria.

Leb-an-on

pro-tec-tion

un-dis-turb-ed

con-fu-sion

a'-low-ance

smug-gling

flour-ish-ed

pris-on-er

val-u-a-ble

ear-nest-ly

in-scrip-tion

el-o-quent-ly

di-a-monds

el-e-phants

in-tro-duc-tion

Who found a seedling among the cedars of Lebanon

while travelling in the Holy Land? Why did he wish to bring it away? Where did he plant it? What kind of a voyage home had he? What was there a scarcity of? How much did each passenger have a day? What were the custom-house officers suspicious of? What city was the young cedar taken to? Where was it planted? What gloomy building was near these gardens? How long did the cedar live? Why was it cut down?



BRANCH AND CONES OF THE CEDAR.

THE PEACOCK.

1. This beautiful bird, although not a native of England, is familiar to most people. It is not known when it was introduced into this country, but for a long time it has been domesticated amongst us, and has appeared among the chief ornaments of the grounds around the country mansions of our gentry.

2. When the first peacock was introduced into Greece over two thousand years ago, the Greeks so admired its beauty, that a fixed price was paid for the privilege of seeing it, and numbers came to Athens from distant parts of the country purely to gratify their curiosity. Peacocks are great favourites in Persia, where they are more common in gardens and pleasure-grounds than in England. The Shah of Persia has a throne, called "the throne of the peacock;" for on a square pillar standing on each side of the throne, is a sculptured peacock, studded with precious stones, and holding a large ruby in its beak. The Chinese make beautiful fire-screens and other ornamental articles from its feathers, which they mount on ivory handles.

3. The native home of these beautiful birds is beneath the sunny skies of southern Asia, and in the islands of the Eastern Ocean. In some parts of India they are extremely common, flocking together in bands of from thirty to forty, and covering the trees with their beautiful plumage.

4. The peacock seems to be quite conscious of its own beauty. It struts proudly about, as if it felt itself to be superior to all surrounding objects, and now and then it elevates and expands its train so as to form a circle of gorgeous beauty around its neck and head; and then it turns itself round and round, as if to catch the rays of the sun, and thus to show its glories to the best advantage.

5. The train of the peacock, although generally looked upon as its tail, is not so in reality. The *true tail*, which is composed of eighteen brown, stiff

feathers, about six inches long, is beneath, and may be seen when the train is raised. In the female the train is almost wanting, nor is she in other respects so gorgeously attired as her mate.

6. Although Nature has thus endowed this bird with such beauty, she has withheld from it that sweetness of voice with which she has so richly gifted many others of the feathered tribes. Its cry is harsh and discordant, and it is only when heard from a long distance that it is at all pleasing. Its food is principally corn and barley.

7. The pea-hen is rather smaller than the male. She seldom lays more than four or five eggs at a time, and always chooses some retired spot where she can protect them from danger. The eggs are white and spotted. The young birds do not acquire their perfect brilliancy till the third year.

domesticated, living
tamely.
privilege, favour.
sculptured, carved.
conscious, aware.
elevates, raises.

gorgeous, splendid.
attired, dressed.
endowed, enriched.
discordant, unmusical.
retired, out of the
way.

beau-ti-ful	or-na-ments	pre-cious	gen-er-al-ly
al-though	man-sions	ex-treme-ly	re-al-i-ty
na-tive	cu-ri-os-i-ty	su-pe-ri-or	prin-ci-pal-ly
fa-mi-li-ar	stud-ded	ad-van-tage	bril-li-an-cy

Where may peacocks be seen in England? When was the peacock introduced into Greece? How did the Greeks show their *desire to see it*? Where are peacocks great

2. Mark! how we meet thee
 At dawn of dewy day!
 Hark! how we greet thee,
 With our roundelay!
 While all the goodly things that be
 In earth, and air, and ample sea,
 Are waking up to welcome thee,
 Thou merry month of May.



3. Flocks on the mountains,
 And birds upon their spray,
 Tree, turf, and fountains
 All hold holiday;
 And love, the life of living things,
 Love waves his torch and claps his wings,
 And loud and wide thy praises sing
 Thou merry month of May.

favourites? Describe the throne of the Shah of Persia. What use do the Chinese make of the feathers of the peacock? Where is the native home of the peacock? How does the peacock seem to show its vanity? Describe its tail. How does the female differ in appearance from the male? On what does the peacock chiefly feed? When do the young birds acquire their perfect brilliancy of plumage?



MAY DAY.

1. Queen of fresh flowers,
Whom vernal stars obey,
Bring thy warm showers,
Bring thy genial ray.
In nature's greenest livery drest,
Descend on earth's expectant breast,
To earth and heaven a welcome guest,
Thou merry month of May.

2. Mark! how we meet thee
At dawn of dewy day!
Hark! how we greet thee,
With our roundelay!
While all the goodly things that be
In earth, and air, and ample sea,
Are waking up to welcome thee,
Thou merry month of May.



3. Flocks on the mountains,
And birds upon their spray,
Tree, turf, and fountains
All hold holiday;
And love, the life of living things,
Love waves his torch and claps his wings,
And loud and wide thy praises sings,
Thou merry month of May.

vernal, belonging to spring.
genial, cheerful.
livery, showy clothes.

welcome, well received.
roundelay, a part song.
ample, large.

dew-y	flow-ers	green-est	ex-pect-ant
breast	show-ers	heav-en	hol-i-day
de-scend	na-ture's	wak-ing	prais-es

THE SUGAR CANE

1. Sugar is obtained from many vegetable substances, such as the maple tree, the beet root, and the sugar cane, but chiefly from the last.

2. The sugar cane is a native of the tropical parts of the world. It was first introduced into Europe by the Saracens, and cultivated in the islands of the Mediterranean Sea. It seems, however, to have been carefully cultivated in India and China from the earliest times.

3. The cane was introduced into the West India Islands shortly after their discovery by Columbus, and the manufacture of sugar has now become one of the chief employments of the people.

4. In preparing a field for planting with the cuttings of the cane, the ground is marked out in rows three or four feet apart, and in these, holes are dug from eight to twelve inches deep, with a space of two feet between them. The cuttings are carefully *planted*, and for some time the soil has to be hoed

to keep them clear of weeds. The hoeing of a field of sugar canes is a most laborious operation, performed as it must be under the rays of a tropical sun.

5. The planting of the canes does not require to be renewed annually, as the crops are obtained for



ome years from the shoots that spring up from the old roots.

6. The nature of the soil and the mode of culture have a considerable effect on the size of the plant.
(e) 1

In a favourable soil, and in new moist lands, it reaches to the height of twenty feet, while in dry and light soils its height does not exceed six or ten feet.

7. The sugar harvest is a very busy time. When the canes are fully ripe they are cut off close to the ground, and divided into convenient lengths. They are then tied up in bundles, and conveyed in carts to the sugar mill. Here they are passed between iron rollers until the whole of the juice is squeezed out.

8. The juice must be immediately boiled to prevent it becoming acid. A certain amount of lime, or of lime water, is now added to promote the separation of the crystals of sugar. During the boiling, the impurities in the syrup collect at the top, and are carefully skimmed off.

9. More fuel is added to the fire, and the watery particles of the syrup are evaporated as fast as possible. The syrup now thickens, and is brought by boiling to such a consistency that it granulates on cooling.

10. When the sugar is sufficiently cooled in shallow pans it is put into hogsheads. These hogsheads are pierced with small holes at the bottom, and placed upright over a large cistern so as to allow the molasses or treacle (which is a portion of the syrup that will not crystallize) to drain away. The sugar left is the raw or brown sugar, which is often seen in large casks at the grocer's shop.

11. The quantity of sugar obtained from a given measure of sugar cane varies, according to the season,

the period of the year, the soil, and the quality of the canes. It may be calculated that, taking one state of circumstances with another in these respects, every five gallons of cane juice will yield six pounds of sugar.

12. Sugar is refined or cleared of its colour and impurities in this country. The raw or brown sugar is transferred from the casks into large circular vessels, in which it is mixed with water, and with a small quantity of lime dissolved in water, so as to make a milky fluid. The mass is then heated by steam, which is forced through small holes in copper pipes laid at the bottom of the vessel. When all is dissolved, the liquor is allowed to run into the filters. These filters are tall vessels six or eight feet high, made of either wood or cast-iron. Inside these vessels are placed about sixty cloth or canvas tubes, and in each of these tubes is placed a bag of cotton cloth. The object of these tubes and bags is to get a large filtering surface; the liquor in passing through them is cleared of most of its impurities, and drops into the cistern below.

13. This liquid has a reddish tinge which is got rid of by passing it through a charcoal filter. The liquor is now ready for the process of evaporation. When this has been sufficiently performed, the syrup is run into moulds made of pottery or iron, and of the conical shape that is seen in the large loaves of sugar in grocers' windows. The sugar is left in these moulds for some hours until it becomes solid, and after a few finishing processes is ready to be *wrapped up in paper for sale.*

maple tree, a tree, from the sap of which sugar is made.

beetroot, the root of a vegetable, from the juice of which sugar is made.

annually, yearly.

particles, very small parts.

crystallize, form into crystals.

syrup, sweet juice.

Saracens, an Arab tribe.

Columbus, a native of Genoa, who discovered America.

laborious, hard.

granulates, forms little grains or small masses.

acid, sour.

refined, purified.

re-gion

squeez-ed

per-form-ed

ob-tain-ed

sub-stanc-es

trop-i-cal

in-tro-duc-ed

em-ploy-ments

quan-ti-ty

dis-solv-ed

trans-fer-red

veg-e-ta-ble

cul-ti-va-tion

man-u-fac-ture

o-per-a-tion

con-sid-er-a-ble

fa-vour-a-ble

con-ve-ni-ent

im-me-di-ate-ly

sep-ar-a-tion

con-sis-ten-cy

suf-fi-cient-ly

cal-cu-lat-ed

im-pur-it-ies

Name some vegetable substances that sugar is obtained from. Where is the sugar cane found? What people first introduced it into Europe? In what parts is it cultivated? In what countries was it cultivated in very early times? When was it introduced into the West Indies? Describe the mode of planting the cane in the West Indies. On what lands does the cane grow to the greatest perfection? When are the canes cut down? Into what lengths are they divided? Where are they taken to? How is the juice squeezed out? What is first done to the juice? What is put into it? Why? When it is sufficiently boiled, what happens to it? What part of the syrup will not crystallize? Into what is it put when it is cooled? How is sugar refined?

Describe the filters. When it has passed through the filters what colour is the syrup? How is it made clear? What is it run into? What is it called when it leaves the moulds?



EXTRACTING THE JUICE OF THE SUGAR MAPLE.

SOMEBODY'S MOTHER.

1. The woman was old, and ragged, and gray,
And bent with the chill of the winter's day;
The street was wet with a recent snow,
And the woman's feet were aged and slow.
She stood at the crossing, and waited long,
Alone, uncared for, amid the throng

Of human beings who passed her by,
Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye.

2. Down in the street, with laughter and shout,
Glad in the freedom of "school let out,"
Came the boys, like a flock of sheep,
Hailing the snow piled white and deep.
Past the woman so old and gray
Hastened the children on their way
Nor offered a helping hand to her,
So meek, so timid, afraid to stir
Lest the carriage wheels or the horses' feet
Should crowd her down in the slippery street.

3. At last came one of the merry troop—
The gayest laddie of all the group;
He paused beside her, and whispered low,
"I'll help you across if you wish to go."
Her aged hand on his strong, young arm
She placed, and so, without hurt or harm,
He guided the trembling feet along,
Proud that his own were firm and strong.

4. Then back to his gay, young friends he went,
His young heart happy and well content.
"She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,
For all she's aged, and poor, and slow;
And I hope some fellow will lend a hand
To help my mother, you understand,
If ever she's poor, and old, and gray,
When her own dear boy is far away."
And "somebody's mother" bowed low her head
In her home that night, and the prayer she said

Was: "God be kind to the noble boy,
Who is somebody's son, and pride, and joy."

chill , coldness.	freedom , liberty.
recent , just fallen.	timid , fearful.
throng , crowd.	troop , number.
human beings , mankind.	laddie , boy.
glance , look.	content , satisfied.

wo-man	laugh-ter	car-ri-age	hap-py
rag-ged	hail-ing	wheels	un-der-stand
cross-ing	hast-en-ed	slip-per-y	some-bo-dy's
heed-ed	of-fer-ed	whis-per-ed	bow-ed
anx-i-ous	a-fraid	guid-ed	pray-er

THE ENGLISH SAILOR BOY.

A TRUE STORY.

1. When Bonaparte, the Emperor of France, was staying at Boulogne, a town on the sea-coast opposite England, Tom Berry, a young English sailor boy who had been taken prisoner by the French, contrived to escape out of prison.

2. He hid himself in a large wood, where, unknown to anybody, he lived for some time exposed to the greatest privations. In the hope of returning to England, he contrived to make a boat ten feet long and four feet broad. It consisted of the branches of the forest *trees* bound together with bark. A

cover of canvas, spread over with a resinous substance, was made to fit at will upon this frame, and gave it the appearance of an Indian canoe.

3. He hoped to meet with an English ship that would take him on board, if he could only get near it in his frail little boat. In this hope he kept watching from the highest trees of the forest. At length, after waiting patiently for several days, his joy was very great to see an English brig in sight, and near enough to the shore to offer every chance of success.

4. He immediately descended from the tree, placed his little boat upon his shoulders, and ran towards the shore. But at the moment when he was launching it, he was discovered by the guards of the coast. They ran up to him, seized him as a spy, and took him into Boulogne.

5. This bold attempt of the sailor boy soon became generally known and talked about. All were eager to see the frail boat which Tom's skill had constructed, and it was shown as a sight in the courtyard belonging to the guard-house. Bonaparte visited it and ordered the poor youth to be brought into his presence. Tom was not afraid, but when asked by the Emperor how he had planned his escape in order to get to England, he told the exact truth in a straightforward way.

6. "You seem to have a great wish," said the Emperor, "to return to your own country."

"Oh, sir," said he, "it is my poor mother I want to see once more before she dies. She is very ill, and has been a very kind, good mother to me. If I

might but be taken over to see her and then brought back, I would gladly submit to any punishment for deserting my prison."

7. Bonaparte was quite touched and pleased with the youth's love for his parent, as well as with his



patience and courage. He set him at liberty immediately, ordered that money and clothes should be given him, and that he should be sent to England on the very first opportunity, saying, "Such a good son must have a *good mother*."

contrived, planned successfully.

exposed, subjected to.

touched, moved.

privations, hardships.

resinous, of the nature of resin.

launching, putting into the water.

discovered, found out.

frail, easily broken.

constructed, built.

brig, a vessel with two masts.

stay-ing	con-sist-ed	suc-cess	straight-for-ward
op-po-site	sub-stance	de-scend-ed	pun-ish-ment
pris-on-er	ap-pear-ance	gen-er-al-ly	cour-age
un-known	high-est	be-long-ing	op-por-tu-ni-ty
great-est	pa-tient-ly	plan-ned	de-sert-ing

Who was Bonaparte? Where was he then staying? What was the name of the English sailor boy who had been taken prisoner? When he escaped from the prison where did he hide himself? What did he make in this wood? What for? What was it made of? When did he take his boat to the shore? How? What happened just as he was launching it? What was done to the boy? Where was the boat put? Who ordered the youth to be brought into his presence? What did the emperor say to the boy? What did the boy reply? How was he treated?



STORIES OF ELEPHANTS.—PART I.

1. The elephant is the largest of the quadrupeds, well as the strongest, and yet in a state of nature is neither fierce nor formidable. It never abuses power or its strength, and only uses its force for its own protection, or that of its community.

2. The elephant, however, in addition to its bodily strength, presents many remarkable features of character. It combines the fidelity of the dog, the endurance of the camel, and the docility of the horse, with great sagacity, prudence, and courage.

3. The senses of smell, hearing, sight and touch, excel those of perhaps any other animal of the brute creation. Its powers of mind are not less well developed than its senses. Obedience, love for its master, docility, remembrance of ill or good deeds done to it, are marked features in the character of this animal. The following stories will illustrate some of its wonderful powers.

THE ELEPHANT PORTER.

1. In the year 1811, a lady was staying with her husband, an officer in the East India Company's service, at a house near the fort of Travancore in India.

2. She was very much astonished one morning to observe an elephant, unattended, marching into the courtyard carrying a very heavy box with his trunk. He put this box carefully down, and then went away and fetched a similar box, which he placed by the side of the other. He continued this operation

for some time, until he had accumulated a great pile.

3. This pile of boxes he arranged with the greatest regularity, and now and then would stand and examine it to see if the lines of the boxes were straight.

4. The boxes contained the treasures of the Rajah of Travancore, who had died during the night. The English commander had taken possession of his property, and the boxes that the elephant had brought to his house, contained the most valuable part of the treasures, which he was having removed for greater security.

THE ELEPHANT NURSE.

1. An English officer relates, "I have often seen the wife of a camp follower give a baby in charge of an elephant, while she went out on some business, and have been highly amused in observing the sagacity and care of the unwieldy nurse.

2. "The child, which like most children, did not like to lie in one position, would, as soon as left to itself, begin crawling about. It would get amongst the legs of the animal or entangled in the branches of trees on which the elephant was feeding. The elephant would every now and then disengage its charge in the most tender manner, either by lifting it out of the way with its trunk, or by removing the impediments to its free progress.

3. "The elephant was chained by the leg to a peg that was driven in the ground, and if the child *crawled* beyond the length of its chain it would

stretch out its trunk, and lift the child back to its place as tenderly as possible."

quadrupeds, animals with four feet.

abuses, misuses.

protection, safety.

community, the elephants that live together.

fidelity, faithfulness.

docility, gentleness.

sagacity, shrewdness.

observe, see.

accumulated, heaped up.

formidable, to be feared.

treasures, valuable articles.

entangled, caught.

disengage, to set free.

impediments, obstructions.

unwieldy, bulky.

courage, bravery.

strength

ar-rang-ed

pos-si-ble

re-mark-a-ble

pru-dence

con-tain-ed

o-be-di-ence

as-ton-ish-ed

char-ac-ter

pos-sess-ion

el-e-phant

ob-serv-ing

re-mem-brance

ten-der-ly

for-mid-a-ble

se-cu-ri-ty

Which is the largest quadruped? What animals does it resemble in character? In what does it resemble the dog? In what does it resemble the horse? In what does it resemble the camel? Where was the lady staying that saw the elephant porter? How did the elephant carry the boxes of treasures? In what place did it put them? How did it arrange the boxes? What was it careful to see? What had the elephant nurse to do? When the child crawled under its legs, or got amongst the bushes, how was it removed to a place of safety?





STORIES OF ELEPHANTS.—PART II.

THE GRATEFUL ELEPHANT.

1. In the year 1879, Wombwell's menagerie visited Tenbury, previous to entering the town of Ludlow. Amongst the collection was a very fine female elephant named "Lizzie."

2. Nearly five years ago, when the menagerie previously visited Tenbury, this elephant, after a hard walk, was allowed to drink a quantity of cold water, and being heated by the walk was attacked with colic.

3. The poor animal suffered intensely. Mr. Turly, *a chemist* of the town, was called into the menagerie

when the life of the animal was all but despaired of. By his vigorous efforts and skilful treatment the valuable beast was saved.

4. After this lapse of time "Lizzie" did not forget her "doctor," for on the procession passing down Teme Street, she immediately recognized Mr. Turly at the door of his shop, and going to him, gracefully placed her trunk in his hand.

5. Mr. Turly visited the exhibition at night, and had a reception on the part of his former patient which he had not calculated upon. Gently seizing the gentleman with her trunk, with which she encircled him, to the terror of the audience she bestowed upon him the strongest marks of affection, and it was some time before Mr. Turly was released.

THE THOUGHTFUL ELEPHANT.

1. An elephant in Adsmeer which often passed through the bazaar or market, as he went by a certain herb woman, always received from her hand a mouthful of vegetables.

2. Being one day seized with a fit of madness, he broke his fetters, and running through the market put the crowd to flight, and overturned many of the stalls. Amongst those who ran away was the herb woman, who, in her haste, forgot her little child at the stall.

3. When the elephant came to the spot where his benefactress was accustomed to sit, he saw the child, and taking it up gently with his trunk, conveyed it to a place of *safety*.

THE HUMANE ELEPHANT.

1. In India, elephants are used in warfare, and are mostly employed in the transport of artillery, their great strength and intelligence being especially useful in taking the cannon up steep roads, and through difficult passes.

2. On one of these occasions an elephant was drawing up a big gun, and on the box, a little in front of the wheel, sat an artilleryman resting himself. An elephant drawing another gun came up in regular order behind. Whether from over fatigue, or the heat of the day, the man fell from his seat, and the wheel of the carriage, with a heavy gun, was just rolling over him.

3. The elephant behind seeing this, and being unable to reach the man with its trunk, seized the wheel by the top, and lifted it up, passing it carefully over the body of the fallen man, and then put it down on the other side.

menagerie, a wild beast show.

Ludlow, a town in Salop.

vigorous, strong.

recognized, knew again.

lapse of time, time passed.

calculated upon, not expected.

audience, the people in the show.

fetters, chains for the feet.

benefactress, the kind herb woman.

transport, taking from place to place.

artillery, cannon.

fatigue, weariness.

pa-tient

pre-vi-ous

suf-fer-ed

im-me-di-ately

seiz-ing

en-ter-ing

des-pair-ed

en-cir-cled

oc-ca-sions	quan-ti-ty	val-u-a-ble	be-stow-ed
re-ceiv-ed	at-tack-ed	re-cep-tion	ac-cus-tom-ed

Where was the menagerie staying? What was the name of the elephant? What had made the elephant ill five years before? Who cured her? When the elephant came a second time to the town and saw Mr. Turly, what did she do? In what other manner did she show her gratitude to the chemist? What is a bazaar? What did the woman always give to the elephant that often passed through? What happened to this elephant? When the people saw the elephant overturning the stalls, what did they do? Who was left behind? What did the elephant do with the little child? What made the artilleryman fall off the cannon? How did the elephant prevent the wheel from killing him?



INDIAN ELEPHANT.



AFRICAN ELEPHANT.

CONTENT.

1. I neither toil nor pray for wealth;
 No riches covet—only health:
 The healthy heart, the healthy hand,
 And healthy brain to understand.

(8)

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2. With these what need of wealth have I?
The world is mine—earth, sea, and sky;
And every star, and every flower,
To give me pleasure has the power.
3. The meanest object I behold
Has teachings rich and manifold;
Can cheer the heart, the spirits raise,
And touch the chords of songs and praise.
4. The sun, the moon, each lucent star,
The birds, the streams, my poets are.
What other pictures need I see
Than God, the artist, paints for me.

toil, work hard.
covet, long for.

manifold, different.
lucent, bright and shining

nei-ther	un-der-stand	mean-est	lu-cent
wealth-y	pleas-ure	teach-ing	pic-tures

BENJAMIN WEST.

1. The first display of talent in the infant mind of Benjamin West was curious, and still more so from its occurring where there was nothing to excite it. America, his native country, had, at that time, scarcely a specimen of the arts, and, being the son of a Quaker, he was not familiar with pictures or prints. His pencil was of his own invention. His colours were given to him by an Indian savage. His whole *progress* was a series of inventions, and painting

was not the result of a lesson but was an instinctive passion.

2. When only seven years of age, he was one day left in charge of an infant in the cradle, and had a fan to flap away the flies from the child. After some time the babe happened to smile, and its beauty attracted his attention. He looked at it with a pleasure which he had never before experienced; and, observing some paper on a table, together with pens and red and black ink, he seized them with agitation, and endeavoured to draw a portrait, although at that period he had never seen anything of the kind.

3. Hearing the approach of his mother and sister he tried to hide what he had been doing; but his mother observing his confusion, asked him what he was about, and requested him to show her the paper he was concealing. He obeyed, entreating her not to be angry. His mother, after looking some time at the drawing with evident pleasure, said to her daughter, "I declare he has made a likeness of little Sally;" and kissed him with much fondness and satisfaction. This encouraged him to say that if it would give her any pleasure, he would make pictures of the flowers which she held in her hand; for his genius was awakened, and he felt he could imitate the forms of any of those things which pleased his sight.

4. Young West continued to make drawings with pen and ink until camel hair pencils were described to him, when he found a substitute in the tapering fur of a *cat's tail*. In the following year a cousin

sent him a box of colours and pencils, with several pieces of canvas prepared for the easel, and six engravings.

5. The box was received with delight, and in the colours, the oils, and the pencils he found all his wants supplied. He rose at the dawn of the following day and carried the box into the garret, where he spread his canvas, prepared a pallet, and began to imitate the figures in the engravings. Enchanted with his art, Benjamin forgot the school hours, and joined the family at dinner without mentioning the employment in which he had been engaged. In the afternoon he again retired to his study in the garret, and for several days successively he thus withdrew and devoted himself to painting. His mother at last suspecting that the colour box had occasioned the neglect of school, went into the garret, and there found him engaged on a picture.

6. Her anger was soon appeased by the sight of the performance. She saw not a mere copy, but a composition from two of the engravings. She kissed him with transports of love, and assured him she would intercede with his father to forgive him for absenting himself from school. Sixty-seven years afterwards, this piece, finished when the artist was in his eighth year, was exhibited in the same room with the sublime painting of "Christ Rejected," and West declared that there were inventive touches in his first and juvenile essay, which all his subsequent experience had not enabled him to surpass!

7. Having received some practical instruction from

a painter of the name of Williams, West set up as a portrait painter, first at Philadelphia, then at New York. In 1760, still but a youth, he went to Italy, and remained in that country, chiefly at Rome, three years. He came to England, and was employed by George III. for nearly thirty years. He was one of the original thirty-six members of the Royal Academy, established in 1768; and in 1792 he succeeded Sir Joshua Reynolds as President, a position he held till his death in 1820, in the 82nd year of his age.

talent, extraordinary ability.

excite, call forth.

instinctive, natural.

experienced, felt.

agitation, excitement.

portrait, likeness.

concealing, hiding.

entreating, begging.

evident, real.

genius, talent.

substitute, something used in place of something else.

pallet (palette), oval board on which a painter holds his colours.

enchanted, filled with delight.

sublime, grand.

subsequent, after.

surpass, excel.

original, first.

dis-play	en-grav-ing	sat-is-fac-tion	per-form-ance
cu-ri-ous	ap-proach	en-cour-aged	in-ter-cede
oc-cur-ring	ob-serv-ing	pic-tures	ex-hib-it-ed
A-mer-i-ca	con-fu-sion	de-scrib-ed	ju-ven-ile
in-ven-tion	o-bey-ed	oc-ca-sion-ed	es-tab-lish-ed

Where was Benjamin West born? Give an account of West drawing the baby in the cradle. What did his mother say when she saw the drawing? What did West use in the place of camel hair pencils? Where did he get his *box of colours* from? Where did he go to draw? }

What opinion did West, sixty-seven years afterwards, give of his first drawing made in the garret? Where did West go in the year 1760? Who employed him in England? What institution did he help to establish?

Explain the following words: Talent, instinctive, enchanted, substitute, and sublime.



THE DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

1. He who at the anvil stands,
Striking while the iron glows,
Though he works with iron hands,
Nobly strikes the ringing blows.
At the loom, and in the field,
In the shop, and on the soil,
Where men wisely power wield,
There is dignity in toil.

2. He who works with throbbing brain
Thinks to teach men how to live,
Writes, that others good may gain,
Speaks, to truth fresh zest to give.
He can claim the manly right
With the sons of toil to stand;
He asserts his mental might,
Helps to bless his native land.
3. He who lives a life of ease,
Idly wasting all his days—
Aiming only self to please,
Filled with pride and courting praise;
Call him not a noble man,
Such existence is a sham;
And when ends his life's blank span,
Soon will die his empty name.
4. Labour brings reward and rest,
Educates the latent powers;
And he serves his age the best
Who employs his golden hours;
Working not beyond his might,
Toiling not against his will,
And, beneath his Master's sight,
Glad his mission to fulfil.
5. All things labour for our good:
He who made us never sleeps;
He who tills the ground for food
For his pains a harvest reaps.
None who work need feel ashamed,
As they do what good they can;

'Tis an honour to be named,
As we toil, "a working man."

dignity, nobleness.	asserts, maintains.
anvil, an iron block on which things are shaped.	courting, seeking.
wield, use.	latent, hidden.
	toiling, working hard.

striking	aiming	employs	be-neath
power	existence	native	mission
wasting	empty	educates	fulfil

NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

1. Norway and Sweden, together, form a large peninsula in north-western Europe. Sweden forms the larger part of this peninsula, but Norway is the more mountainous.

2. The coast of Norway is similar to that of Ireland and Scotland. It is bold and rocky, fringed with numerous small islands, and indented with narrow inlets of the sea, called Fiords. Some of these are very broad and deep, and run from twenty to sixty miles into the land. The scenery on this coast is very grand, high precipitous mountains, covered with forests of pine and birch, running down to the fiords.

3. Into these fiords run rapid streams of water, which make their way down many a waterfall, and all abounding in fish. The fiords themselves are the home of millions of water-fowl, whose eggs and feathers form valuable articles of trade for the people.

4. The climate is very severe, and the winter lasts eight months in the year. There is really no spring, the summer and the winter being often only separated by a few days. The ice and snow melt very rapidly, and the leaves at once burst forth.



MOUNTAIN OF THE KILHORN, NORWAY.

The birds build their nests, the corn is sown, and vegetation and flowers deck the land that a few days before was covered with snow.

5. "Oh! 'tis the touch of fairy hand,
That wakes the spring of northern land;
It warms not there by slow degrees,
With changeful pulse, the uncertain breeze;
But sudden on the wondering sight,
Bursts forth the beam of living light;
And instant verdure springs around,
And *magic flowers* bedeck the ground."

4. In summer the climate is often very hot, but it is generally sultry. One part of Norway lies within the Arctic circle, and here, at midsummer, the sun does not set at all.

7. The people of Norway, called Norwegians, are a brave, hardy race of men. They have always been fond of the sea and are excellent sailors. In old times their history was one of great romance. Led by their vikings or sea kings they sailed forth, and devastated and conquered countries along the western coast of Europe.

8. These old vikings became very much mixed up with English history, and one of them named Rollo, who conquered Normandy, was the ancestor of William the Conqueror, so that our own royal family is descended from these old sea kings.

9. The wild animals of Norway are bears, wolves, ermines, and foxes. Reindeer, elks, deer, and hares abound in the northern parts. Geese and eider ducks are very numerous in the fiords. From these eider ducks a great quantity of down is obtained, which is exported to other countries to make beds and quilts. The forests supply deal and tar.

10. Large quantities of salmon and lobsters are also caught, which, when packed in ice, are sent by swift steamers to London.

11. Sweden is a land of rivers and lakes, and in many respects is very much like Scotland. The summer is short and very hot. Wheat, oats, potatoes, hemp and flax, are the chief articles of culture.

12. Sweden is noted for its minerals. Its iron

mines are among the finest and most productive in the world. In addition to these, gold, silver, copper, lead, and cobalt are found.

13. The houses, and even the churches in some parts, are built entirely of wood, and present a very singular and pretty appearance.

14. In the north of Sweden there dwells a curious race of people called Laplanders. They



GROUP OF LAPLANDERS.

are very short in stature, and of a dark yellow complexion. They live mostly on fish; and on the milk which they obtain from their large herds of reindeer. The reindeer when dead supplies them with food and clothing. It is their only beast of burden.

15. In *summer* the Laplanders live in tents, and

during the winter in low miserable huts, partly sunk under the ground. These huts are very smoky and dirty, and the people in consequence are sickly and wretched looking.

16. Sweden has produced but few men who have earned a world-wide reputation. The most celebrated is Linnæus the naturalist, who died 1778.

similar, like.

numerous, very many.

intersected, cut up.

precipitous, very steep.

verdure, greenness.

devastated, laid waste.

ancestor, forefather.

exported, sent out.

complexion, colour of skin.

naturalist, one who studies nature.

pulse	moun-tain-ous	cu-ri-ous	Nor-we-gi-ans
breeze	scen-e-ry	ap-pear-ance	mis-er-a-ble
caught	con-quer-ed	pen-in-su-lar	re-pu-ta-tion
de-grees	quan-ti-ties	val-u-a-ble	cul-ti-vat-ed
ro-mance	min-er-als	veg-e-ta-tion	con-quer-or
vi-kings	pro-duct-ive	gen-er-al-ly	Nor-man-dy

What do Norway and Sweden form? Where are they situated? What sort of a coast has Norway? How is it intersected? How far do these fiords run into the land? What kind of scenery is found there? What is very abundant in the water of these fiords? What birds are also numerous? How long does the winter last? Describe the spring. What are the people of Norway called? In olden times how were they employed? Name some country that they conquered. From what chief is our queen descended? Name the wild animals of Norway. What is obtained from the eider duck? What fish are exported to London? How are they brought?

What country does Sweden resemble? What is Sweden noted for? What curious people dwell in the north of Sweden? What beast of burden do they keep? Name the great Swedish naturalist. What are the houses and some of the churches built of?



WOODEN CHURCH, NORWAY.

DO YOUR BEST.

1. Do your best and leave the rest,
Have no doubts whatever:
Labour first, then rest in hope,
Truth deceives us never.

Right manfully the sower flings
His seed on earth's broad bosom;
Then waits until the harvest brings
The fruits of summer's blossom.

2. Do your best and leave the rest,
This is always noble;
Before the gain, there comes the pain,
Before the ease, the trouble;
If conquests here are hardly won,
Our triumph is the greater;
Esteem no action rightly done
While still it may be better.
3. Do your best and leave the rest,
Fear not for to-morrow:
Fear not suffering, toil or woe,
Fear not care or sorrow.
Fear alone the faithless heart
With coward weakness branded,
That will not act the worthy part
Our Father hath commanded.
4. Do your best and leave the rest,
We may have much to try us;
Yet all things well together work
To aid the good and pious.
Clouds our mazy track may shroud,
And dark the tempest lower;
The sky is bright above the cloud,
The sun behind the shower.

5. Do your best and leave the rest,
 One there is who keepeth
 All things in His sovereign hand,
 Who slumbereth not nor sleepeth;
 One who hears us when we cry,
 One who well doth love us;
 One who helps us when we try,
 One good Friend above us.
6. Do your best and leave the rest,
 Never doubt His kindness.
 Who only trusts his human eyes
 Shall soon be struck with blindness.
 Faith is larger far than sense,
 Love can grasp creation;
 Build thou upon Omnipotence,
 And have a firm foundation.

doubts, uncertainties.
 deceives, leads into error.
 deem, consider.
 faithless, not true.
 dizzy, winding.

branded, marked.
 shroud, to cover over.
 omnipotence, unlimited
 power.
 sovereign, supreme.

la-bour	con-quests	suf-fer-ing	slum-ber-eth
de-ceives	tri-umph	weak-ness	cre-a-tion
un-til	ac-tion	pi-ous	foun-da-tion



THE DISHONEST PEASANT.

1. In the year 1794, a poor French emigrant was passing the winter in a village in Westphalia in Germany. He was obliged to live with the greatest economy in order not to go beyond his means.

2. One cold morning he had occasion to buy some wood. He found a peasant who had a load to sell, and asked him what the price was. The peasant, perceiving by his broken German that he was a foreigner, and that his ignorance might be taken advantage of, answered that the price was a sum equal to about ten shillings of English money. The Frenchman entreated him to take less, but in vain; the peasant would abate nothing of his first demand. The emigrant finding it useless to waste words with him, and being in pressing need of the fuel, at last took it, and paid the money that was asked for it.

3. The peasant, delighted to have made so good a bargain, drove with his empty cart to the village inn, which was not far off, and ordered breakfast.

While it was being prepared he entertained the landlord with an account of the way in which he had cheated the Frenchman, and made him pay ten shillings for a load of wood which, at the utmost, was not worth more than five shillings; talking as if he had done a very clever thing.

4. But the landlord was a good man, and feeling justly indignant at the peasant's conduct, told him that he ought to be ashamed of himself to have thus taken advantage of the ignorance of a poor foreigner. "Well," said the peasant, with a scornful laugh,

"the wood was mine; I had a right to ask just what I pleased for it, and nobody has a right to call my conduct in question."

5. The landlord made no reply. When breakfast was over the peasant asked how much he was to pay. The landlord replied, "Ten shillings."

"What!" said the peasant, "ten shillings for a cup of coffee and some slices of bread and butter!"

6. "Yes," said the landlord with the utmost composure, "the coffee and bread and butter are mine; I have a right to ask just what I please for them. My bill is ten shillings, and I shall keep your horse and cart until you pay me. If you think I am charging you too much, you can go before the judge."

7. The peasant, without saying anything more, went to the judge's office and made his complaint. The judge was surprised and indignant at the landlord's extortion, especially as he had always borne an excellent character.

8. He ordered him to be brought before him, and his reception of him was somewhat stern. But the landlord told him the whole story; how the peasant had taken advantage of the poor emigrant's ignorance to cheat him, what their conversation was, and how his own conduct was simply visiting upon the head of a dishonest man the wrong he had done to another.

9. Under such circumstances the judge decided that the landlord had done right, and that the peasant should pay the ten shillings.

The peasant, with a very ill grace, drew out his purse, *and laid the money on the table.*

10. "I do not want this money," said the landlord to the judge, "as your honour may well suppose. Will you have the goodness to take the ten shillings and give the peasant five shillings out of it—for that, as he confessed to me, is all that his wood was worth—and return the remainder to the poor Frenchman? For the breakfast I want nothing."

11. The judge was much moved at these words of the good innkeeper. He counted out the five shillings to the peasant, and dismissed him with a severe rebuke.

12. The rest was returned to the emigrant, who, on hearing the story, went to thank the kind innkeeper, and with great difficulty persuaded him to accept a small sum for the peasant's breakfast.

peasant, country labourer.

emigrant, one who goes
out from his own country.

indignant, very angry.

obliged, compelled.

economy, carefulness.

perceiving, noticing.

entreated, begged.

abate, lessen.

composure, calmness.

extortion, asking more
for a thing than it is
worth.

reception, receiving.

confessed, owned.

dismissed, sent away.

emp-ty

bar-gain

ex-cel-lent

sur-pris-ed

scorn-ful

break-fast

char-ac-ter

es-pe-cial-ly

ques-tion

com-plaint

per-suad-ed

con-ver-sa-tion

re-buke

ac-count

for-eign-er

cir-cum-stance-s

charg-ing

cheat-ed

ig-no-rance

dif-fi-cul-ty

land-lord

ad-van-tage

in-dig-nant

en-ter-tain-ed

Where was the poor emigrant passing the winter of 1794? Why was he obliged to live with the greatest

economy? From whom did he want to buy a load of wood? Why did the peasant ask more for it than it was worth? Why was the Frenchman obliged to buy it? Whom did the peasant tell that he had cheated the Frenchman? What did the innkeeper say to him? How did he reply? How much did the innkeeper charge for the peasant's breakfast? Why did he object to pay it? What was the reply? Why was the judge at first surprised to see the innkeeper before him? When the case was explained, what did he then say? What was done with the money?



THE LIGHTHOUSE.

1. The tide comes up, and the tide goes down,
Over the rocks, so rugged and brown,
And the cruel sea with a hungry roar,
Dashes its breakers along the shore;

But steady and clear, with a constant ray,
The star of the light-house shines away.



2. The ships come sailing across the main,
But the harbour mouth is hard to gain,
For the treacherous reef lies close beside,
And the rocks are bare at the ebbing tide.
And the blinding fog comes down at night,
Shrouding and hiding the harbour light.
3. The sailors, sailing their ships along,
Will tell you a tale of the light-house strong;
How once, when the keeper was far away,
A terrible storm swept down the bay,
And two little children were left to keep
Their awesome watch with the angry deep.

4. The fair little sister wept, dismayed,
But the brother said, "I am not afraid;
There's One who ruleth on sea and land,
And holds the waves in His mighty hand;
For mercy's sake I will watch to-night,
And feed, for the sailors, the beacon light."
5. So the sailors heard through the murky shroud
The fog-bell sounding its warning loud!
While the children, up in the lonely tower,
Tended the lamp in the midnight hour,
And prayed for any whose souls might be
In deadly peril by land or sea.
6. Ghostly, and dim, when the storm was o'er,
The ships rode safely, far off the shore,
And a boat shot out from the town that lay
Dusk and purple, across the bay,
She touched her keel to the light-house strand,
And the eager keeper leaped to land.
7. And swiftly climbing the light-house stair,
He called to his children, young and fair;
But, worn with their toilsome watch, they slept,
While slowly o'er their foreheads crept
The golden light of the morning sun,
Like a victor's crown, when his palm is won.
8. "God bless you, children," the keeper cried;
"God bless thee, father," the boy replied.
"I dreamed that there stood beside my bed
A beautiful angel, who smiled and said,

'Blessed are they whose love can make
Joy of labour, for mercy's sake.'

rugged , rough.	breakers , waves.
treacherous , deceptive.	murky , dark.
dismayed , frightened.	shrouding , concealing.
awesome , full of awe.	peril , danger.

cru-el	hun-gry	break-ers	shroud-ing
awe-some	ter-ri-ble	bea-con	sail-or
ea-ger	fore-heads	swift-ly	climb-ing
vic-tor	dream-ed	beau-ti-ful	bless-ed

FERGUSON—THE SHEPHERD BOY ASTRONOMER.

1. James Ferguson was the son of a day labourer. He was born at Keith, a small village in Scotland, in the year 1710. He learned to read by merely listening to the instructions which his father communicated to an elder brother. He was afterwards sent for about three months to the grammar-school at Keith, and this was all the education he ever received at school.

2. His taste for mechanics appeared when he was only about seven or eight years of age. By means of a turning-lathe and a knife he constructed machines that served to illustrate the properties of the lever, and the wheel and axle. Of these machines, and the mode of their application, he made rough drawings with a pen, and wrote a brief description of them.

3. Unable to subsist without some employment, he was placed with a neighbouring farmer, and occupied for some years in the care of his sheep. In this situation he commenced the study of astronomy, devoting the greater part of the night to the contem-



plation of the heavens, while he amused himself in the day time with making models of spinning-wheels and other machines which he had an opportunity of observing.

4. He was much encouraged by another farmer, in whose service he was afterwards engaged, in his astronomical studies, and enabled by the assistance that was *afforded* him in his necessary labour to

reserve part of the day for making fair copies of the observations which he roughly sketched out at night. In making these observations he lay down on his back, with a blanket about him, and by means of a thread strung with small beads, and stretched at arm's length between his eye and the stars, he marked their positions and distances.

5. The master who thus kindly favoured his search after knowledge recommended him to some neighbouring gentlemen, one of whom took him into his house, where he was instructed by the butler in decimal arithmetic, algebra, and the elements of geometry. After this we find him an invalid in his father's house, suffering from an illness which had been brought on chiefly by excessive labour; but true to his mental instincts, amusing himself during the period of his recovery by making a clock which struck the hours on the neck of a broken bottle, and a watch with a spring made of whalebone, the wheels of both machines being of wood. The clock kept time pretty well, but the watch proved a failure from the inability of the teeth of the wheels to bear the force of the main-spring.

6. He constructed a globe of wood, covered it with paper, and drew upon it a map of the world. He also added the meridian-ring, and horizon, which he graduated, and by means of this instrument, which was the first he had ever seen, he was enabled to solve difficult problems in mathematical geography. His ingenuity obtained for him employment suited to his taste, which was that of cleaning clocks, and *drawing patterns for ladies' needlework*; he was

thus enabled not only to supply his own wants, but also to assist his father.

7. Having improved in the art of drawing, he was induced to draw portraits from the life with Indian ink on vellum. This art, which he practised with facility, afforded him a comfortable subsistence for several years, and allowed him leisure for pursuing those favourite studies which ultimately raised him to eminence. In 1748, he began to give lectures on astronomy, mechanics, and other branches of natural philosophy. The clearness of his statements, and the familiar illustrations which he employed, the sparing use which he made of technical terms and mathematical reasoning, together with his admirable diagrams and mechanical apparatus, made Ferguson popular as a lecturer.

8. George III. showed his appreciation of the "peasant-boy philosopher's" genius and efforts by sometimes attending the lectures, and by giving the lecturer an annual pension of fifty pounds. He died in 1776, leaving about £6000 to his family, which he had acquired by his lectures, books, and the sale of models.

constructed, made.

illustrate, show.

brief, short.

subsist, live.

contemplation, study.

valid, sick person.

cessive, very great.

subsistence, livelihood.

mental, belonging to the mind.

leisure, time to spare.

ultimately, in the end.

eminence, high position.

familiar, easy.

appreciation, regard.

acquired, obtained.

in-struc-tions	oc-cu-pi-ed	ge-o-me-try
com-mu-ni-cat-ed	op-por-tu-ni-ty	me-ri-di-an
re-ceiv-ed	as-tro-nom-i-cal	math-e-ma-ti-cal
de-scrip-tion	as-sist-ance	fa-cil-i-ty
em-ploy-ment	re-com-mend-ed	phil-os-o-phy

Where was Ferguson born? In what year? How did he learn to read? What length of time did he attend the grammar school? When did his taste for mechanics appear? How did he obtain a livelihood in his early days? What plan did he adopt to make a map of the heavens? Who taught him decimal arithmetic and algebra? Of what did he make his clock? How did he make the globe? When did he begin to give lectures? On what subjects did he lecture? How did George III. show his esteem for Ferguson? When did Ferguson die?

RICE.



1. Rice is a kind of marsh grass, bearing, when in ear, a nearer resemblance to barley than to any other of the corn plants grown in England.

The seeds grow on separate ears, springing from the main stalk. Each ear is terminated, like barley, with a beard, and the grain is inclosed in a rough yellow husk.

2. The stalk is not unlike that of wheat, but the joints are more numerous. Rice is almost entirely com-

posed of starch, having little or no gluten, and no sugar.

3. The outer husk clings so firmly to the grain that it can only be detached from it by passing the rice through a pair of mill stones. These are placed at such a distance from each other, that they serve to remove the husk by friction, without crushing the grain.

4. There is little reason for doubting that this grain is of Asiatic origin. From the earliest times it has formed the principal, if not the only food of the great mass of the population that inhabit India and the Chinese Empire.

5. Rice is one of the chief productions of Egypt, and constitutes one of the principal sources of wealth to the inhabitants. Egypt is well suited for its cultivation, as it requires abundance of water, and constant irrigation.

6. It has also been introduced into America. The swamps of South Carolina, which are often inundated by the tides and by floodings of the rivers, are well suited for the production of rice. The cultivation is carried on with trifling labour, and rice of a remarkably fine quality is raised.

7. In Carolina the rice seed is carefully sown in rows about 18 inches apart. The sowing is done by negro women, who do not scatter the seed, but put it carefully into the ground with the hand. The water, which has been kept back by flood-gates, is now allowed to overflow the ground to the depth of several inches, and the fields remain in this state for a week, until the seed germinates. The

in-struction c
 com-mu-ni-cat-ed c
 re-ceive a
 de-scrip-tion a
 em-ploy-ment 1

Where was Ferguson
he learn to read? W
grammar school? W
learn? How did he ob
W *hat* plan did he ad
W *ho* taught him dec
W *hat* did he make h
gl *be*? When did he
su *jects* did he lectur
es *em* for Ferguson?



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In these countries, as well as in Africa where it is used with maize, little culinary preparation, being, simply boiled with water, and by substance.

on the other hand, where it is a primary article of food, it undergoes preparation for the table. Rice except in combination with milk, which take away the natural innu-

und.	swamps, low wet lands.
ness.	inundated, covered with
	water.
nt.	germinates, sprouts.
d.	overflow, run over.
	extremely, very.
	insipidity, want of
g.	taste.

ate	pro-duc-tions	com-bin-ed
-ed	con-sti-tute	em-ploy-ed
ly	qual-i-ty	cul-ti-va-tion
sed	ad-mit-ted	Car-o-li-na
i	Lom-bar-dy	re-mark-a-bly
-pal	re-strict-ed	for-bid-den

What corn grown in this country does
do the ears tell. What is
How is the separated
here did rice

water is then drawn off until the rice is three or four inches above the ground, when the fields are again flooded to kill the weeds.

8. The water is again drawn off until the rice is full grown, and in ear. For the last time the water



VIEW OF A RICE FIELD IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

is admitted, and covers the ground until the seeds are fully ripe. In Lombardy the rice is cut by men, who have to wade up to their knees in the water for that purpose. Other persons follow them to receive it, and to carry it to a place to dry.

9. As rice is a marsh plant, its cultivation is extremely unhealthy, and in some parts, near Milan, its cultivation is restricted, and its production beyond certain limits forbidden.

10. Rice is most extensively cultivated both in

China and India. In these countries, as well as in those districts of Africa where it is used with maize, it undergoes but little culinary preparation, being, for the most part, simply boiled with water, and eaten with some oily substance.

11. In countries, on the other hand, where it is employed as a secondary article of food, it undergoes a greater degree of preparation for the table. Rice is seldom used except in combination with milk, eggs, and sugar, which take away the natural insipidity of the grain.

marsh, low wet ground.
resemblance, likeness.
terminated, ended.
numerous, abundant.
detached, separated.
friction, rubbing.
inhabit, live in.
irrigation, watering.

swamps, low wet lands.
inundated, covered with water.
germinates, sprouts.
overflow, run over.
extremely, very.
insipidity, want of taste.

bear-ing	se-par-ate	pro-duc-tions	com-bin-ed
glu-ten	in-clos-ed	con-sti-tute	em-ploy-ed
doubt-ing	en-tire-ly	qual-i-ty	cul-ti-va-tion
em-pire	com-pos-ed	ad-mit-ted	Car-o-li-na
E-gypt	o-ri-gin	Lom-bar-dy	re-mark-a-bly
sour-c-es	prin-ci-pal	re-strict-ed	for-bid-den

What is rice? What corn grown in this country does it resemble? How do the ears terminate? What is rice composed of? How is the outer husk separated from the seed? Where did rice originally come from?

Where does it form one of the chief productions of the country? Why is Egypt well suited for its cultivation? In what part of America does it flourish? What are swamps? How is the rice planted in Carolina? In what part of Europe is it cultivated? Why is its cultivation restricted there? What preparation does it undergo for eating? In countries where it is only occasionally eaten what is used with it?



THE CAPTAIN'S CHILD.

1. A good thing is it to obey
Whom God hath set to rule;
And happy are our children trained
Betimes in duty's school.
2. Of such an one, to you, my friends,
A story I will tell;
A truthful and a touching tale,—
I pray ye, mark it well.


3. There was a child whose early home
Was on the rolling deep;
The waters sung his lullaby,
And rock'd him to his sleep.



4. He was the captain's only child,
And when his mother died
He would not to her kindred send
The prattler from his side.
5. And so the little boy grew up,
A dweller on the sea;
For feats of horsemanship, he learn'd
To climb the tall mast tree.

6. The song of birds at early morn
It was not his to hear;
But the ocean breeze, that swept the seas,
Was music in his ear.
7. Yet was the ship a rugged school
For one so fair and young,
And harshly in his hearing oft
His father's accents rung.
8. For dearly as he lov'd the boy,
That love was never shown
In fond endearment, but in care
Of discipline alone.
9. Yet Harry was a merry boy,
Brimful of fearless fun,
And blithely with a ship-boy's skill
Could up the rigging run.
10. Oh, but the sailors lov'd him well;
The sunshine of his smile,
With memories of their childish days,
Could home-sick hearts beguile.
11. All household loves on him were shower'd,
As in their sight he grew;
And so the Captain's child became
The darling of the crew.
12. Now of a monkey I must tell,
A droll and knavish elf,
The sailor's pet, and Harry's plague,
A mimic of himself.

13. A grinning, chattering plague it was,
And mischievous full oft,—
He clutch'd his cap from Harry's head,
And darted up aloft.
14. Up in the rigging with his prize,
The thievish creature flew,
Now here, now there, it dodg'd about,
And Harry followed too.
15. "Hollo! hollo!" the boy exclaim'd,
"Such manners suit not me,
Come, Master Jacko, I must teach
Civility to thee."
16. At first it was a merry chase,
And blithely all look'd on;
But many a weather-beaten face
Paled ere the cap was won.
17. The eager boy, without a thought
Of danger or of dread,
Had reach'd at length the topmost pole,
Where scarce was room to tread.
18. Where none could turn, and none could bend,
He stood in dizzy trance,
Beyond the reach of others' help,
Nor dared the downward glance.
19. Breathless with fear, the crew look'd up,
None spoke and no one stirr'd,
Not even when the Captain's tread
Upon the deck was heard.

20. "What is the matter now, my men?
Why stand ye moon-struck here?"
None answer'd him—one look above
Reveal'd the speechless fear.
21. Pale with his agony, the boy
Is trembling, ere he fall
Upon the deck with murderous crash—
The Captain saw it all.
22. But not a nerve or muscle yet
With grieving anguish shook,
"Bring me my fowling-piece," he said,
And steadfast aim he took.
23. Then stern, and loud, and trumpet clear,
He cried, "Attend to me!
This moment, sir, I fire, unless
You jump into the sea."
24. A life-long agony compress'd,
Throbs in the breast of all!
Not on the deck, not on the deck,
Resounds the dreaded fall!
25. Off at his father's word, he sprang,
Far in the yielding wave,
And many a sailor overboard
Dash'd after him, to save.
26. Safe! safe! how quickly on the deck
The rescu'd boy they bear,—
Then fail'd at once the father's heart,
He might not linger there.
- 

27. No, ere his trembling arms enfold
 The child to hope restor'd,
 Lock'd in his cabin, all alone,
 His wordless thanks are pour'd.
28. Too deeply stirr'd his being's tide,
 Another's eye to brook,
 While shuddering sobs so long suppress'd,
 His frame with tremblings shook.
29. Calm in the might of prayer, at length
 He bade them bring his boy,
 And clasp'd him to his yearning heart
 With all a father's joy.
30. I tell not of the interview,
 Which none beside might share;
 The love of father and of son,
 What language can declare?
31. Yet from my story, you, my friends,
 May of obedience learn,
 And how the truest love may wear
 An aspect strange and stern.

betimes, early.

rolling deep, ocean.

rugged, rough.

accents, words.

endearment, love.

discipline, order.

beguile, amuse.

mimic, imitator.

civility, good manners.

revealed, showed.

anguish, great pain.

agony, violent pain.

rescued, saved.

suppressed, kept back.

train-ed

rig-ging

mis-chiev-ous

shud-der-ing

truth-ful

blithe-ly

thiev-ish

yearn-ing

lul-la-by

mem-o-ries

ex-claim-ed

in-ter-view

prat-tler

knave-ish

re-stor-ed

lan-guage

A KIND-HEARTED EMPEROR.

1. Joseph II. Emperor of Austria, used to wander about his dominions under a variety of disguises.

He thus came within hearing of complaints which would never have reached him on his throne; and he was enabled personally to give help to the needy, and comfort to the sorrowing. On one occasion he was passing through the streets of Vienna, dressed as a private gentleman, gathering several useful hints from the casual remarks of those whom he addressed.

2. It is not often that hodden gray and regal purple are brought so closely together; not often that a king and his poor subjects speak freely to each other. As the emperor passed a church, his steps were arrested by an importunate appeal for charity. He distributed some money amongst the applicants, and was about to proceed when his attention was drawn to a boy about twelve years old who came timidly towards him.

3. "What can I do for you, my little friend?" said the emperor. He spoke kindly, and the child was encouraged to reply.

"Oh, sir," answered the child, in a voice trembling with emotion, "you are so kind that you repulse no one; you will not refuse to bestow your charity on me!"

4. "Indeed I should be sorry to refuse you," said the emperor; "but how is it you are begging? You were meant for something better; your voice, your *manner*, show me you are no child of the streets;

why are you in tears, and why do you blush when you ask for help?"

5. "Your goodness, sir, encourages me to speak freely," the boy replied. "For months past we have



been destitute. My father was a gallant officer in the imperial army; compelled by illness to quit the service, he supported his family on a pension granted to him by the emperor; at the beginning of this year he died, and we are left quite destitute."

6. "Poor child! Is your mother alive?"

"She is, sir; and I have two brothers, who are with her now. She has been unable to leave her

bed for weeks, and one of us must watch beside her while the others come out to beg!"

The child burst into a flood of tears.

7. "Take comfort, my boy," said the emperor; "we'll see what can be done to help you. Is there any doctor to be found near here?"

"There are two, sir, not a stone's throw from the church."

"That is well; fetch one of them to your mother's assistance. There is money, not only for the physician's fee, but to provide all things that may be necessary for weeks to come. Take it, child, don't fear, rest assured the good services of your father shall not go unrewarded."

8. The child gazed upon him in amazement.

"Oh, sir," said he, "how can I sufficiently thank you? You have saved my mother's life; you have also kept my brothers from want."

"Not a word, child; go, seek the physician."

9. The boy obeyed with alacrity, and the emperor, having ascertained the situation of the house where he resided, bent his steps in that direction, and soon arrived at the dwelling of the unfortunate widow.

10. The apartment in which he found her was a scene of the greatest misery. There was scarcely any furniture, the mother having disposed of nearly everything she possessed to procure bread for her children. The poor woman was lying on a stump bedstead. She was still young; but misery had rendered her pale and thin, robbing her cheeks of *their* bloom, and her eyes of their lustre. She

breathed with difficulty, and seemed to be threatened with that terrible disease—consumption.

11. When Joseph II. entered the apartment, the widow and her children regarded him with astonishment.

“I am a physician, madam,” said the emperor, bowing respectfully; “your neighbours have apprised me of your indisposition, and I am come to render what service may be in my power.”

12. “Alas! sir,” she answered with some embarrassment, “I have no means of remunerating you for your attentions.”

“Do not distress yourself on that account; I shall be amply repaid if I have the happiness of restoring you to health.”

13. Joseph II., with these words, approached the couch, made inquiries as to the symptoms of the disease from which the patient was suffering, after which he wrote a few lines and placed them on the chimney-piece.

“I will leave you this prescription, madam; and on my next visit I hope to find you much relieved.” He then withdrew. Almost immediately after his retirement the eldest son of the widow came in with a medical man.

14. “Oh, mother,” cried the boy, “a kind, good gentleman has given me all this;” and he poured the contents of the purse which the emperor had given him into his mother’s hand. “There now, don’t cry, mother; this money will pay the doctor and buy everything till you are well and strong again.”

15. “A physician has already been here, my child,

and has left his prescription. See, there it is." The boy followed the direction which his mother indicated, and took down the paper which the emperor had written. No sooner had he glanced at its contents, than he uttered an exclamation of joyful surprise.

16. "Oh, mother! It's the best prescription a physician ever wrote; it's the order for a pension, mother—a pension for you—signed by the emperor himself; listen; mother, hear what he says:—

"Madam,—Your son was fortunate enough to meet me in the city, and he apprised me of the fact that the widow of one of my bravest officers was suffering poverty and sickness, without any means of assistance. I was ignorant of this, therefore I cannot be accused of injustice. It is difficult for me to know everything that transpires in my empire. Now that I do know of your distress, I should indeed be culpable did I not render you all the help I can. I shall immediately place your name on the pension list for the annual sum of two thousand florins, and trust that you may live many years to enjoy it.

"JOSEPH II."

17. The widow and her children were taken under the especial patronage of the emperor, and a brilliant career was opened out to the boys, who inherited all their father's bravery and mother's piety.

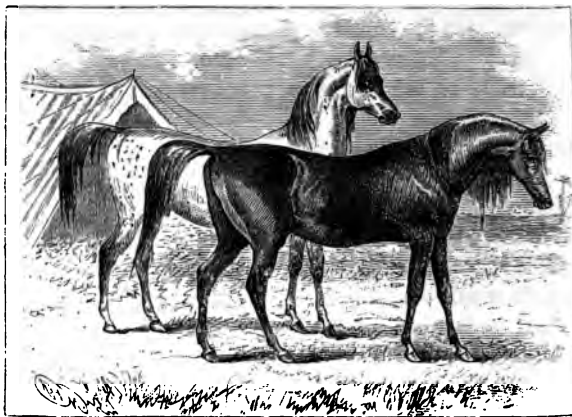
Happy emperor! whose life was made illustrious by good works, and who never lost the opportunity of doing a charitable deed.

changes of dress.	indisposition, illness.
gray, common	embarrassment, hesitation.
ple, royal robes.	remunerating, paying.
stopped.	prescription, medical
nate, very earn-	direction.
	exclamation, a sudden
in want.	cry.
n, a skilled doctor.	transpires, takes place.
quickness.	culpable, to be blamed.
ed, found out.	illustrious, famous.
ccasional.	

r-or	an-swer-ed	un-for-tu-nate
-ty	e-mo-tion	a-part-ment
laints	im-pe-ri-al	fur-ni-ture
n-al-ly	pen-sion	threat-en-ed
al	as-sist-ance	con-sump-tion
al	ne-ces-sa-ry	re-spect-ful-ly
-but-ed	suf-fi-ci-ent-ly	symp-toms
cants	di-rec-tion	ca-reer

I Joseph II. of Austria find out his people's
 What did he say to the little boy whom he saw
 What did the child reply? What had the
 er once been? Where was his mother? Who
 her? What did the emperor say when the boy
 ry? For whom did the emperor send the boy?
 I Joseph II. go? Why was there but little fur-
 he room in which the sick mother lay? What
 peror say to the lady? Write out the emperor's
 n.

: Regal purple, physician,
 rarrassment, prescription, cul



THE ARAB'S FAREWELL TO HIS HORSE.

[The Arabs have the finest horses in the world, and they are very fond of them. It is related that the French Consul at Alexandria once gave a poor Arab a purse of gold for a fine horse, with the design of sending the animal to the King of France. The Arab took the money, but, after having in vain endeavoured to tear himself away from his horse, flung the purse upon the ground, sprung upon the horse's back, and was quickly out of sight.

The following beautiful lines were written upon this touching incident:—]

1. My beautiful! my beautiful! that standest meekly by,
With thy proudly arched and glossy neck, and
dark and fiery eye!

Fret not to roam the desert now with all thy
wingèd speed;
I may not mount on thee again;—thou'rt sold,
my Arab steed!

2. Fret not with that impatient hoof, snuff not the
breezy wind;
The farther that thou fliest now, so far am I be-
hind;
The stranger hath thy bridle rein; thy master
hath his gold;
Fleet-limbed and beautiful! farewell!—thou'rt
sold, my steed, thou'rt sold!

3. Farewell! Those free, untirèd limbs full many
a mile must roam,
To reach the chill and wintry clime that clouds
the stranger's home;
Some other hand, less kind, must now thy corn
and bed prepare;
That silky mane I braided once must be another's
care.

4. Only in sleep shall I behold that dark eye glanc-
ing bright,—
Only in sleep shall hear again that step so firm
and light;
And when I raise my dreaming arms to check or
cheer thy speed,
Then must I startling wake to feel thou'rt sold,
my Arab steed!

5. Ah! rudely then! unseen by me, some cruel hand
may chide,
Till foam-wreaths lie, like crested waves, along
thy panting side,
And the rich blood that's in thee swells in thy
indignant pain,
Till careless eyes that on thee gaze may count
each starting vein!
6. Will they ill-use thee?—If I thought—but no—
it cannot be;
Thou art so swift, yet easy curbed, so gentle, yet
so free;
And yet if haply, when thou'rt gone, this lonely
heart should yearn,
Can the hand that casts thee from it now, com-
mand thee to return?
7. “Return!”—Alas! my Arab steed! what will
thy master do
When thou, that wast his all of joy, hast van-
ished from his view?
When the dim distance greets mine eyes, and
through the gathering tears
Thy bright form for a moment, like the false
mirage, appears?
8. Slow and unmounted will I roam, with wearied
foot alone,
Where with fleet steps and joyous bound thou
oft hast borne me on;
And sitting down by the green well, I'll pause
and sadly think,

'Twas here he bowed his glossy neck when last
I saw him drink.

9. When last I saw thee drink! away! the fevered
dream is o'er!

I could not live a day and know that we should
meet no more;

They tempted me, my beautiful! for hunger's
power is strong—

They tempted me, my beautiful! but I have
loved too long!

10. Who said that I had given thee up? Who said
that thou wert sold?

'Tis false! 'tis false, my Arab steed, I fling them
back their gold!

Thus, thus I leap upon thy back, and scour the
distant plains!

Away! Who overtakes us now may claim thee
for his pains.

lime, country.

hide, use harshly.

indignant, very angry.

urbed, checked.

anished, disappeared.

vered, exciting.

mirage, the deceitful ap-
pearance of water in the
desert where there is no
water.

scour, run swiftly over.

pains, labour.

beau-ti-ful

strang-ers

start-ing

gath-er-ing

stand-est

pre-pare

un-seen

ap-pears

im-pa-ti-ent

braid-ed

in-dig-nant

un-mount-ed

fare-well

glanc-ing

van-ish-ed

tempt-ed

un-tir-ed

dream-ing

dis-tance

o-ver-takes

THE EARLY LIFE OF GEORGE STEPHENSON.

PART I.

1. George Stephenson, the inventor of the locomotive engine, and the founder of the railway system of travelling, was born in June, 1781, in the colliery village of Wylam, about eight miles west of Newcastle-on-Tyne. His parents were poor, honest, industrious people. His birthplace was a cottage with clay floor, bare rafters, and unplastered walls.

2. His father was a great favourite with children. He possessed two qualities which won for him the universal love of young people. He could tell tales about Sinbad the Sailor, and Robinson Crusoe, and even invent amusing stories of his own. He had also a strong passion for birds and animals, and was always surrounded by these dumb favourites. In his work by his engine-fire, and in his cottage home, the birds seemed to know him as their friend, and would hop about to pick up the crumbs he saved for them from his own meals. From him George derived that love of birds and animals which marked his whole life.

3. George was the second of six children, and his father's earnings seldom exceeded twelve shillings a week. Little, therefore, was left for clothing, and nothing at all for school. George's time as a child was passed in running errands, playing about the cottages, and listening to his father's amusing tales. Often he helped to nurse the children; but the *special* duty assigned to him was to see that his little

iers and sisters were kept out of the way of the waggons that passed on the tram-road which in front of the cottage. These waggons were on wooden rails by horses. But who can tell far the constant sight of this rude railway may given a direction to his thoughts which produced such great results in future years? It is interesting to know that the first experiment of a motive steam engine was tried in the northern district on this very tram-road.

When George was eight years old, the family moved to Dewley Burn, and here the boy found his first employment. He was appointed to look after the cows belonging to a widow, for which he received twopence a day. He had plenty of leisure, which he spent chiefly in company with a favourite playmate, Bill Thulwall, in erecting small dams in the little streams around, and in making bricks out of clay with hemlock stalks for steam-boats.

He was soon promoted to hoe turnips, and to drive horses in ploughing, though he was scarcely big enough to stride across the furrows. For this work he received fourpence a day.

But his great desire was to be with his father and elder brother at the colliery. This wish was gratified, and his wages raised to sixpence a day, and afterwards to eightpence, when he was set to drive a gin-horse. In a very short time he was removed to Black Callerton Colliery, about two miles from the place where his father and brother were employed. In his daily walks to and fro he would catch young

birds and bring them home, teaching them to fly about his cottage. One tame blackbird roosted on the head of his bed every night. And most strange of all, this bird would disappear in the spring and summer months, probably to look after its young, and then return to the cottage for the winter. This went on for several years.

7. The growing and thoughtful lad, however, never forgot his clay-engines, and his great ambition was to have the management of a real engine. Great, therefore, was his delight when he was taken to be an assistant to his father in firing the engine at Dewley Burn Colliery, at the wages of one shilling a day. He was only afraid lest he should be found too young for the work, and in after years he used to confess, that when the owner of the colliery went round, he would hide himself lest he should be seen and thought too young.

8. As the workings of the pits were exhausted, George Stephenson moved to different collieries. At Throckley Bridge his wages were raised to twelve shillings a week. "On coming out of the foreman's office that Saturday evening on which he received the advance, he announced the fact to his fellow-workmen, adding triumphantly, 'I am now a made man for life.'"

9. At seventeen years of age, his youthful ambition was gratified by his appointment as engineman at the same colliery where his father was employed as fireman. Here at last he had the opportunity he so ardently longed for of carefully studying every part of the machinery, and of becoming thoroughly

master of the construction of the steam-engine. He tried to remedy its defects, and by constant attention to his duties, soon gained the reputation of being a clever and improving workman.

10. He was now eighteen years old, earning twelve shillings a week, and occupied with his engine twelve hours a day. But he had never learned to read. His parents could not afford to send him to school, but they had tried to train him to good habits at home, and best of all, they had set him a good example. He had been taught to use every minute wisely, and now he determined to learn to read and write. At the age of nineteen he was proud to be able to write his own name. He began to learn arithmetic, and would work out his problems upon a slate as he sat by his engine-fire.

11. When twenty years of age, Stephenson had so thoroughly gained the confidence of his employers that he was appointed to the responsible office of brakesman—the most important and best paid office connected with the engine. His duty was to superintend the working of the engine and machinery, by means of which the workmen ascended and descended the pit, and the coals were drawn out.

locomotive, moving from place to place.

assigned, given.

leisure time, when he could do what he liked.

promoted, raised.

ambition, strong desire.

exhausted, worked out.

(6)

triumphantly, as if he had done some great thing.

ardently, earnestly.

reputation, name.

responsible, having a great deal depending upon it.

Σ

an-nounc-ed	ex-per-i-ment	pos-sess-ed	sys-tem
earn-ings	ma-chin-e-ry	scarce-ly	trav-el-ling
en-gine	man-age-ment	spe-ci-al	un-plast-er-ed

Of what was George Stephenson the inventor? Where was he born? Describe his birthplace. What made his father a favourite with children? What was George's first employment? How did he, when a boy, employ his spare time? Give an instance of his love of birds. What was his great ambition? What did he say when his wages reached twelve shillings a week? When did he learn to read and write?



THE EARLY LIFE OF GEORGE STEPHENSON.

PART II.

1. Being anxious to settle in life in a home of his own, George Stephenson became very expert in mending and afterwards in making shoes, and this increased his weekly earnings. He records with

thankful joy the fact of his having saved his first guinea, and he said to a friend that "he was now a rich man." Thus industry, sobriety, and thrift, were the true secret of Stephenson's success as a young man, and these sterling qualities afterwards made him useful, prosperous, and honoured.

2. After his marriage in 1802, he still employed his leisure in mending shoes, and then proceeded to make shoe-lasts, in which he did a very good trade. An accident having happened to his clock, he took it to pieces, and repaired the mischief so well that other clocks were sent to him, and he soon became one of the most famous clock-doctors in the neighbourhood.

3. But a heavy trial awaited him in the early death of his wife, leaving one son, Robert Stephenson. He was now employed as brakesman in the Killingworth Colliery. He went away for one year to superintend the working of one of Watt's engines at Montrose in Scotland. On his return he found his father had been blinded by an accident and reduced to want. With part of the money saved in Scotland, George at once paid off his father's debts and placed him and his mother in a comfortable cottage near his own home, where he supported them until their death.

4. A great triumph now awaited him, the fitting reward of his own close attention and perseverance. An engine of defective construction had been erected for the purpose of pumping out the water from a neighbouring pit. It proved utterly incapable of doing the *work for which it had been erected.* All

the best engineers in the district had tried to remedy its defects and failed. Stephenson examined it, and expressed his belief that he could make it efficient, and, as a last resource, he was asked to undertake it. Very quickly the pit was cleared of water, and George received a present of ten pounds for the job—the largest sum he had ever received up to this time in one amount. His fame as an engineer was now firmly established.

5. It would be a pleasant task to follow the growing success of this noble young man step by step—to read of his honest pride at having saved his first 100 guineas—of his resolve to give his son the best education he could, of his own unceasing efforts at self-improvement, of his ingenuity, his untiring industry and his masculine vigour. In 1812, when thirty-one years of age he was appointed engineer to the Killingworth Colliery at a salary of £100 a year.

6. One interesting fact we must mention. With the assistance of his son, and a copy of Ferguson's *Astronomy* which Robert had brought from Newcastle, Stephenson resolved to construct a sun-dial in front of his cottage. Many difficulties were in the way, but perseverance and ingenuity overcame them all, and at last the sun-dial was fixed much to the astonishment of the neighbours. It is believed that the dial still remains with the date carved upon it, "August 11th, 1816."

7. Thus amid difficulties of no ordinary kind, George Stephenson was gradually preparing himself for his great and enduring work, the construction

of the locomotive engine, and the introduction of the vast railway system, which still ranks highest amid all the wonderful products of this wonderful nineteenth century.

expert, skilful.

sterling, thoroughly good.

defective, not perfect.

incapable, unable.

efficient, in good working order.

ingenuity, practical skill.

masculine, manly.

astronomy, science of the stars.

sun-dial, an instrument to mark the time by means of the sun.

enduring, lasting.

ac-ci-dent

grad-u-al-ly

neigh-bour-hood

so-bri-e-ty

brakes-man

guin-ea

pur-pose

suc-cess

en-gin-eer

mis-chief

re-source

tri-umph

How did George Stephenson increase his earnings? What made him think he was now a rich man? Why did he go to Scotland? What did he find on his return? What great triumph awaited him? What appointment did he receive at thirty-one years of age? Give the story of his sun-dial. For what great work was Stephenson gradually preparing himself?





S N O W.

1. Snow, snow, beautiful snow,
Falling so widely on all below:
As heavenly gifts do ever—
Filling each hollow among the hills,
Hiding the track of the frozen rills,
Lost in the gushing river.
2. Snow, snow, beautiful snow,
Lying so lightly on all below,
Garden and field spread over,
White as a spotless winding sheet;
The flowers are lifeless, and thus 'tis meet
The face of the dead to cover.

3. Snow, snow, beautiful snow,
Melting so softly from all below,
Into the cold earth sinking;
Soon the last traces shall disappear,
And Spring, with carpets of flowers, be here,
And none of the snow be thinking.
4. Yet greener the hollows among the hills,
And fuller the flow of the sparkling rills,
Since the snow with moisture fed them.
Thus when our lives shall melt away,
Fresh and bright would their influence stay
If in holy deeds we shed them.

beau-ti-ful	hid-ing	dy-ing	moist-ure
heav-en-ly	life-less	dis-ap-pear	in-flu-ence



A BRAVE BOY.

1. Boys, like men, too often look only at the outside, and judge both persons and things merely by that false standard. But the lesson must be learnt that a fine dress will not make a man or woman really worthy, nor will a poor dress or a humble occupation prevent either a man or a boy from being truly noble.

2. An American gentleman tells the following story of his own school-day life, which should help us to judge our companions by something better than mere outside show:—

3. One morning, as we were going to school, one of the scholars was seen driving a cow towards a neighbouring field.

A group of his schoolfellows met him as he was passing. One of the number, named Jackson, could not resist the temptation to ridicule the boy's humble occupation. "Holloa," he exclaimed, "what's the price of milk? How do you fodder your beast to make it look so fat? Boys, look here; if you want to see the newest fashion in boots, just look at those boots of Watson's."

4. Watson's boots were very peculiar—in fact, decidedly ugly and clumsy; but he passed on with his cow to the field, just waving his hand to his companions with a pleasant smile. When he saw the animal safely inclosed, and had shut the gate, he turned back and quietly joined his schoolfellows in the school.

5. Directly school was over, away he ran to his

cow and drove her off, no one knew whither. For two or three weeks, this was repeated day by day in all weathers, without a word of complaint or explanation.

6. Jackson did not forget to renew his sneers, and many a laugh did he create among the boys against Watson driving his cow, and against his strange ugly boots.

7. "I suppose, Watson," said Jackson one day—"I suppose your father means to make a milkman of you!"

"Why not?" asked Watson.

"Oh, nothing: only don't leave much water in the cans after you rinse them—that's all."

8. The boys laughed. Watson, however, was not moved or ruffled in the slightest degree, but replied, "Never fear; if I should ever be a milkman, I will give good measure and good milk too."

9. On the very day after this conversation there was a public distribution of prizes. Many ladies and gentlemen were present. Both Jackson and Watson received a fair share, for they were both industrious boys, and about equal in position in the school.

10. After all the ordinary prizes had been given out, the head-master stated that there was one very special prize, which was only given on very rare occasions. It was a gold medal, and was given as a prize for **HEROISM**. The last medal was awarded about three years ago to an elder boy who rescued a poor girl from drowning.

11. "This year," he said, "I think I may venture to award it again, and, that all the company present

may judge for themselves whether the prize has been deserved or not I will relate the following story:—

12. Not long since some boys were flying a kite in the streets just as a poor lad on horseback rode by on his way to the mill. The horse took fright and threw the boy, injuring him so badly that he was carried home, and confined for some weeks to his bed. None of those boys who had caused the accident had the thought to find out the wounded lad, or make any inquiry about him.

13. One boy from a distance, however, had seen the whole affair. Away he went to make inquiries and render what help he could. He found that the injured lad was the grandson of a poor widow. All her support was derived from the sale of the milk of her one cow. She was old and lame, and she depended on her grandson to drive the cow to and from its pasture every day. What she was to do while her grandson lay helpless, she could not conceive.

14. "Never mind," said the sympathizing young visitor; "I will drive your cow." Nor was this all. Money was wanted to buy several articles required by the injured boy. The only article she could sell was a pair of heavy boots bought for her grandson Tom. The boy offered to give to the poor distressed woman some money that had been given him for some new boots. This she would not consent to receive. "If, however, the young gentleman," she suggested, "would buy Tom's boots from *her*, it would help her on capitally."

15. The bargain was made. The heavy clumsy boots were purchased and worn. Day by day the poor widow's cow was driven to and from the field. And all this has been done amid the jeers and laughter of his schoolfellows, which have been silently endured by the brave boy. He went on quietly with his task, knowing he was doing right, and that neither his employment, however humble, nor his boots, however clumsy, was any real injury to his character.

16. And now, ladies and gentlemen, knowing how very hard it is for any of us, and still more for a young boy, to endure the laughter and ridicule of his companions, even when doing what is right and noble, I ask you if this is not true heroism.

17. Nay, Watson, my boy, do not try to hide yourself behind that black-board. You are not afraid of ridicule, you must not be afraid of praise.

As Watson advanced to receive the medal, with blushing cheeks and downcast eye, the hearty rounds of applause told how he had won all hearts by his conduct. Jackson and his friends felt thoroughly ashamed of themselves, and at once came forward to seek the forgiveness and the friendship of the boy they had wronged.

standard, way of judging.

peculiar, out of the common.

sneers, scoffs or jeers.

ruffled, disturbed.

ordinary, usual.

awarded, given out.

rescued, saved.

sympathizing, kind-hearted.

ridicule, taunts, jeers.

neigh-bour-ing	slight-est	spe-ci-al	cap-it-al-ly
pleas-ant	meas-ure	he-ro-ism	bar-gain
qui-et-ly	in-dus-tri-ous	in-qui-ries	laugh-ter

What common mistake is made both by boys and men in judging of other people? What did the boys see on going to school? What strong temptation did these boys feel? How did Jackson behave himself? How did Watson reply to Jackson? What was there peculiar in Watson's dress? Give the explanation of Watson's conduct. Show in what respects Watson proved himself a hero. How did Jackson act when he heard the whole truth?



THE SUMMER SHOWER.

1. "Oh, blessed, blessed rain!" thus breathed the corn,
 Raising its withered head
 From off its hot and parched bed,
 Unfolding leaf and flower
 To catch the summer shower,
 "Thank God!"

h, blessed, blessed rain!" sang forth the grass,
In chorus low and deep,
From hill, and vale, and steep,
One joyous lay it sent
Up to the firmament,
"Thank God!"

h, blessed, blessed rain!" murmured the brook,
"Again I flow along,
To my old familiar song;
My tripping, silver feet
Glide to the measure sweet,
Thank God!"

, blessed, blessed rain!" sang shrub and tree,
Spreading their branches wide
To catch the joyous tide
That downward rushed headlong
Joining the grateful song,
"Thank God!"

h, blessed, blessed rain!" was whispered forth
From every shady nook
And every tiny brook;
E'en the dry and dusty street
Echoed, in numbers sweet,
"Thank God!"

h, blessed, blessed rain!" the insects sang;
Gay butterfly and bee
Swelled loud the melody;
Bird, beast, each in its way,
Joined in the happy lay,
"Thank God!"

7. "Oh, blessed, blessed rain!" man utters forth;
 "Praise to our God above,
 The fountain of all love,
 For sunshine and for rain,
 Bless we His name again:
 Thank God!"

withered, dried up.
familiar, well known.
melody, tune.

firmament, the sky.
tiny, small.
whispered, spoke softly.

rais-ing un-fold-ing
 join-ing grate-ful
 foun-tain sun-shine

trip-ping down-ward
 but-ter-fly join-ed
 a-gain swell-ed

ITALY.

1. Italy is a very interesting country. Its history for many centuries was the history of the world. More than 1800 years ago it was the centre of civilization. Several of the most celebrated nations of antiquity fell under its power.

2. No nation, except perhaps our own, ever established so many colonies. France, Spain, and England rose from a state of barbarism as colonies of the Roman empire. Wherever the Roman armies went, they left their mark. They constructed splendid roads, built fine towns, erected great walls or fortifications, and did much to improve the manners and customs of the people amongst whom they settled.

3. England indeed owes much to these colonists. *London, Bath, and most of the towns that end in ter,*

as Manchester, Lancaster, Exeter, &c., were Roman colonies, and many of the great roads in our country were originally constructed by them.

4. Italy itself is a long peninsula in the south of Europe, stretching in a south-easterly direction between the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas.

5. Its physical features are very simple. A long range of mountains, called the Apennines, runs down its entire length, sometimes approaching the Mediterranean and at others inclining towards the Adriatic. On each side of these mountains are beautiful fertile plains, intersected by short, and in some parts, rapid rivers.

6. One of these plains, the Plain of Lombardy, is inclosed on three sides by very high mountains. It is watered by numerous rivers, and has on its northern side some of the most beautiful and picturesque lakes to be found in the world. It is so fertile, that many of the plants and fruits of warmer countries grow there to perfection.

7. The climate of Italy is dry and warm, with bright, blue skies during the greater part of the year. Some parts, however, are very unhealthy, especially in the districts around Rome. Here there are great areas of ill-drained land and marsh, which render it uninhabitable during six months of the year.

8. "There are bright scenes beneath Italian skies,
Where glowing suns their purest light diffuse,
Uncultured flowers in wild profusion rise,
And nature lavishes her warmest hues;
But trust thou not her smile, her balmy breath;
Away! her charms are but the pomp of death."

9. A fever, called the Malaria, is prevalent in Central Italy, and on the West coast. Whole districts that once supported a large population are now uninhabitable.

Wild animals are not numerous. They are the wild boar, the chamois, wild goat, and porcupine.

10. Fruits and vegetables are grown in abundance, and are excellent in quality. The chief are the olive, lemon, orange, maize, vine, citron, and rice. The mulberry tree is cultivated to a large extent—the leaves forming the chief food of the silkworm. Italy, indeed, produces more silk than any other European country.

11. The minerals of Italy are not very important. They are chiefly iron, lead, quicksilver, sulphur, and alum. In the Apennines are found many marble quarries. The most famous quarry is that of Carrara, which supplies the finest statuary marble.

12. Italy is remarkable for its volcanoes; the most noted being that of Vesuvius, near Naples. Nearly 2000 years ago this volcano was celebrated and described. In A.D. 79, one of its eruptions overwhelmed and buried two old towns, Pompeii and Herculaneum. These towns have been partly excavated within the last hundred years, and the details of Roman life at the time of their destruction have been revealed to us with wonderful clearness.

13. Mount Etna, in Sicily, one of the Italian Islands, is the largest volcano in Europe. It is nearly 80 miles around its base, and is very frequently active. In the Lipari Islands, near the Italian coast, is a



ETNA DURING THE ERUPTION OF 1771.

small volcano named Stromboli, which is so active that there is an eruption every fifteen minutes.

14. Italy has for centuries been noted for her great scholars, painters, sculptors, and scientific men. Her schools and universities were the nurseries of the arts and sciences. In the middle ages the most promising pupils from foreign countries were sent to these universities. They copied the fashions of the country, studied its architecture, imitated the poets, and bought up, as most valuable treasures, the works of the painters and sculptors.

15. Even at the present day, Italy is the home of art, and painters go there from all parts of the world

to see and copy the works of the great painters, Titian, Raphael, Michael Angelo, &c.

16. The capital of Italy is Rome, the most wonderful city in the world. Not only does it contain



the largest church, St. Peter's, but it has also 364 other churches, many of them most beautiful in design and decoration.

17. Rome has also many palaces, one of which, called the Vatican, the residence of the Pope, contains several thousand rooms and many magnificent picture galleries. In these are to be found the choicest sculpture and the most splendid paintings which the most talented men who have lived in Italy have produced.

18. In addition to these, there are in Rome many *curious* monuments of antiquity, remains of the old

Emperors who conquered the world. There are vast baths, aqueducts to convey water, great statues, pillars, and arches. One monument, called from its immense size the Coliseum, was a great amphitheatre, or circus, capable of seating 80,000 persons. It was in this amphitheatre that fights between men and beasts, or between different kinds of animals, took place.

centuries, hundreds of years.

civilization, culture.

established, formed.

colonies, offshoots from a nation that settle in a foreign land.

constructed, made.

originally, first.

fertile, productive.

picturesque, like a picture.

tropical, countries near the equator.

profusion, great abundance.

lavishes, gives liberally.

prevalent, common.

volcano, a burning mountain.

excavated, dug out.

frequently, often.

magnificent, splendid.

antiquity, old times.

scenes won-der-ful

cen-tre bar-bar-ism

con-quest e-rect-ed

cus-toms phys-i-cal

fea-tures beau-ti-ful

dif-fuse in-clos-ed

de-tails per-fec-tion

sup-port-ed ma-lar-i-a

nu-mer-ous pop-u-la-tion

por-cu-pine veg-e-ta-bles

a-bun-dant cul-ti-va-ted

mul-ber-ry Eu-ro-pe-an

min-er-als sci-en-tif-ic

de-scrib-ed u-ni-ver-si-ties

Give a description of Italy. What was its state 1800 years ago? What did it establish? In what countries? What did the Roman armies construct in the countries they *conquered*? Name some towns in England

that were Roman colonies. Where is Italy situated? What seas nearly surround it? What range of mountains runs through its entire length? Name some large plain in Italy. What is found on the northern side of it? What fruits and plants grow there? Describe the climate. What parts of Italy are unhealthy? What is the cause of its unhealthiness? What is the name of the fever prevalent there? Name the wild animals of Italy. What are the chief fruits grown? What tree is grown largely? Why? What famous marble is obtained from Italy? What is a volcano? Name the most celebrated in Italy. What two old cities did it cover with lava and ashes? Name the other volcanoes of Italy. For what has Italy been noted during many centuries? Name three of her greatest painters. What city is the capital of Italy? How many churches are there in it? For what else is Rome noted?

TRIFLES.

1. Why do we speak of a "little thing,"
And "trifles light as air?"
Can aught be a trifle which helps to bring
One moment's joy or care?
The smallest seed in the fertile ground
Is the germ of a noble tree;
The slightest touch on a festering wound,
Is it not agony?
2. What is a trifle? A thoughtless word,
Forgotten as soon as said!
Perchance its echo may yet be heard
When the speaker is with the dead.

'That thoughtless word is a random dart,
And strikes we know not where;
It may rankle long in some tender heart—
Is it a trifle there?

3. Is it a trifle—the first false step
On the dizzy verge of sin?
'Tis treacherous ground; one little slip
May plunge us headlong in.
One light temptation, and we may wear
Death's galling chain for aye;
One little moment of heartfelt prayer
May rend those bonds away.
4. Drops of water are little things,
But they form the boundless sea;
'Tis in little notes the wild bird sings,
Yet his song is melody.
Little voices, now scarcely heard,
In heaven shall bear their part;
And a little grave in the green churchyard
Holds many a parent's heart.
5. This world is but little, if rightly weighed,
And trifling its joy or care;
But not while we linger beneath its shade—
There are no trifles here.
The lightest burden may weigh like lead
On the faint and weary soul;
In the uphill path it perforce must tread,
Before it reach the goal.
6. Cease, then, to speak of a "little thing,"
Which may give thy brother pain;

Shun little sins, lest they haply bring
 The greater in their train.
 Seize each occasion, however small,
 Of good which may be given,
 So, when thou hearest thy Master's call,
 Thou shalt be great in heaven.

trifles, small things.

agony, great pain.

linger, loiter.

fertile, very productive.

random, careless.

goal, object aimed at.

mo-ment

germ

treach-er-ous

oc-ca-sion

per-chance

aught

temp-ta-tion

per-force

fes-ter-ing

e-cho

scarce-ly

weigh-ed

WASHINGTON AND HIS MOTHER.

1. Some of the most interesting anecdotes of the early years of Washington, are such as connect him with his mother, or were derived from her narrations. She was a dignified and excellent woman, and remembered with respect and love by all who had the honour of her acquaintance.

2. Her husband died while their children were young; so she had the sole care of their training and education. For this great charge she was eminently qualified. She was often asked what course she had pursued in training up her illustrious son, and her reply was: "I only required *obedience, diligence, and truth.*"

3. These were the simple rules by which Washington became good and great. They were wrought

in with the elements of his character, until his goodness became greatness, and his greatness goodness. Is there anything in these three precepts of obedience, diligence, and truth which those who read this are unwilling or careless to observe?

4. Washington, when a boy, was taught to be accurate in all his statements. He told things exactly as they were, and repeated words just as they had been spoken. If he had committed a fault, he did not try to conceal it, or lay the blame upon others.

5. Whatever his errors were—and the best child in the world sometimes does wrong—he always spoke of them to his mother without disguise and without delay. This was the foundation of that noble frankness and contempt of deceit which distinguished him through life, and made him revered by all.

6. Once, from an indiscretion of his boyhood, a considerable loss was incurred. He knew that it would interfere with some favourite plans of his mother, give pain to her feelings, and perhaps awaken her severe displeasure. But he did not hesitate in his duty. He went immediately to her, and made a full acknowledgment; and she said, "I had rather this should have taken place than my son should be guilty of a falsehood."

7. She was careful not to injure him by indulgence or luxurious food. She required him to rise early, and never permitted him to be idle. Labours were sometimes assigned him which the children of wealthy parents *might have accounted severe*. Thus he ac-

quired strength, firmness of frame, and disregard of hardship.

8. He was taught to have certain hours for certain employments, and to be punctual. The systematic improvement of time thus early taught, was of immense service when the mighty concerns of a nation devolved on him. Then he found leisure for the transaction of the smallest affairs in the midst of the most important and conflicting duties.

9. It was observed by those who surrounded his person, that he neglected nothing, and was never known to be in a hurry. He was remarkable for neatness, yet spent but little time in arranging his dress.

10. His habits of early rising and strict attention to order, gave him time for everything; so that the pressure of public business never rendered him inattentive to private duty, domestic courtesy, or kind hospitality. In winter he rose two hours before day, and in summer was ready to enjoy the freshness and beauty of the dawn.

11. Such benefits did a man, whom the world beheld with admiration, derive from the counsels of a mother, who accustomed him to habits of early rising, order, and industry. His obedience to her was cheerful and unvarying. Even after he attained mature years, and a nation regarded him as its deliverer and ruler, the expression of her slightest wish was law.

12. From childhood he repaid her care with the deepest affection, and yielded his will to hers without a murmur. At the age of fourteen, having read

many voyages, he conceived a desire to go to sea. The office of a midshipman had been obtained for him, and everything was in readiness for his departure.

13. Preparing to take leave of his mother, he found her more distressed than he had ever seen her, and discovered that she had not fully stated to him her objections to this mode of life. He threw himself into her arms, and offered to relinquish his favourite purpose, if she desired. She accepted the noble sacrifice.

14. He watched from the window the boat which was conveying the officers to the ship, and in which his own baggage was placed. The bright anticipations which he had long cherished faded away. His mother inquired if he regretted his resolution to remain. "Indeed," said he, "I wished to go; but I cannot make you unhappy." "God will reward your filial affection, my son," was the answer.

15. When a grateful nation, by electing him its first President, conferred on him the highest gift in its power to bestow, he waited on his mother, at her residence in Fredericksburg, to inform her of his appointment. He was now illustrious, and applauded both by the Old and New World. He had lived more than half a century without a stain upon his fame.

16. Yet he bowed down with the same deep reverence to his maternal guide, as when in childhood he learned his lessons at her knee, or repeated from the Bible, "My son, forsake not the law of thy mother."

anecdotes , stories.	narrations , accounts.
eminently , in a great degree.	illustrious , celebrated.
accurate , strictly correct.	frankness , openness.
luxurious , rich.	relinquish , give up.
applauded , praised.	maternal , motherly.
indiscretion , foolish act.	assigned , given.
incurred , received.	dignified , of noble bearing.

in-ter-est-ing	gov-ern-ment	com-mit-ted
Wash-ing-ton	as-sign-ed	dis-tin-guish-ed
dig-ni-fi-ed	qual-i-fi-ed	in-dis-cre-tion
ex-cel-lent	o-be-di-ence	in-cur-red
ac-quaint-ance	dil-i-gence	in-dul-gence

Describe Washington's mother. What did she require from her son? What was Washington's character when a boy? How did he repay his mother's care? What did he want to do when he was fourteen? What office was obtained for him? Why did he give it up? To what great office was he afterwards appointed?

THE COCOA NUT PALM.

1. The family of palms forms one of the most magnificent in the vegetable kingdom. The palms are natives of tropical regions, and are generally large trees with leafless stems, each having a bunch of very large leaves at its summit. These trees are not only remarkable for the elegance of their form *and the great height to which several of them attain,*

but are also of the greatest importance on account of the numerous services which they render to the inhabitants of the countries in which they naturally grow. There are upwards of 450 known species of palms.

2. One of the most interesting of the palm tribe is the cocoa nut tree, as regards both the variety and utility of its products. This tree grows to a height of from 50 to 70 feet. Its trunk is straight, naked,



and marked with the scars of the fallen leaves, and is crowned with a bunch of from twelve to fifteen feather-like fronds (palm leaves), each 12 to 14 feet long. The upper leaves are erect, the middle horizontal, and the lower ones rather drooping. A

single leaf closely resembles an ostrich feather magnified a great number of times beyond its natural size.

3. The nuts are of an oval shape, from three to eight inches in length. They hang from the summit of the tree in clusters of a dozen, or more together. The external rind of the nuts has a smooth surface, and is of a somewhat triangular shape. This incloses an extremely fibrous substance of considerable thickness, which immediately surrounds the nut. The latter has a thick and hard shell with three black scars at one end, through one of which the embryo of the future tree pushes its way. This scar may be pierced with a pin; the others are as hard as the rest of the shell. The kernel is sometimes nearly an inch in thickness, and incloses a considerable quantity of sweet and watery liquid of a whitish colour, which has the name of milk. This palm is a native of Africa, the East and West Indies, and South America.

4. Food, clothing, and the means of shelter and protection are all afforded by the cocoa nut tree. The kernels of the nuts, which somewhat resemble the filbert in taste, are used as food, which is prepared in various modes, and sometimes they are cut up into pieces and dried. They yield an oil, which is largely imported into this country. It is used in candle-making, and in the manufacture of soap and pomatum. The fluid contained in the nut is a cool and agreeable drink.

5. Cocoa nut trees first produce fruit when six or seven years old, after which each tree yields from

50 to 100 nuts annually. The fibrous coats which surround the cocoa nuts, after having been soaked in water for some time, become soft. They are then beaten to free them from the other substances with which they are intermixed, and which fall away like sawdust, the stringy part only being left. This, which is called *coir*, or cocoa nut fibre, is spun into yarn, woven into sail-cloth, and twisted into cables. Coir cables are strong, light, and elastic, but they are not so common now as they were before the introduction of iron cables. Coir is also made into mats and fishing-nets. The woody shells of the nut are hard enough to receive a high polish, and are formed into drinking cups and other domestic utensils, which are sometimes expensively mounted in silver.

6. On the summit of the tree, the tender fronds at their first springing up, are folded over each other so as somewhat to resemble a cabbage. These are occasionally eaten, and are a very delicious food; but as their removal causes the destruction of the tree, they are in general considered too expensive a treat.

7. The maturer fronds are used for the thatching of buildings, and are wrought into baskets, brooms, mats, sacks, hammocks, and many other useful articles.

8. The trunks are made into boats; they also furnish timber for the construction of houses, and when their central portion is cleared away they form gutters for the conveyance of water.

9. If, whilst growing, the body of the tree be bored,

a white and sweetish liquor exudes from the wound, which is called *gouty*. This is collected in vessels, and is a favourite drink in many parts where the tree grows. When fresh it is very sweet; in a few hours, however, it becomes somewhat acid, and in this state is very agreeable: but in the space of twenty-four hours it is complete vinegar.

magnificent, grand
summit, top
topical, hot
annually, yearly
species, sorts or kinds
utility, usefulness
products, that which is
produced
horizontal, level
magnified, enlarged
external, outer
fibrous, containing fibres
in threads
embryo, beginning
afforded, given

various, different
imported, sent from
agreeable, pleasant
intermixed, mixed to-
gether
introduction, bringing
into use
utensils, vessels for use
in a house
occasionally, some-
times
delicious, very pleasant
to the taste
conveyance, carrying
exudes, is discharged

wrought, fibre
even, twist-ed
surface, re-cieve
plur-al, some-what
ker-nel, sur-round
li-qui-d, fam-i-ly
thatch-ing, el-e-gance
flu-id, re-som-bles
shlek-henn, to-ge-th-or

quan-ti-ty
pro-tec-tion
nu-mer-ous
e-las-tic
do-mes-tic
de-struc-tion
va-ri-ous
con-struc-tion
col-lect-ed
ex-pen-sive-ly
gen-er-al-ly
na-tur-al-ly
va-ri-e-ty
con-sid-er-able
im-me-di-ate-ly
man-u-fac-ture
an-nu-al-ly
fa-vour-ite

Where are palm trees found? Describe them generally. How many known species of palms are there? Name one of the most interesting of the palm tribe. Describe its trunk. What is it crowned with? How large are the leaves? What does a single leaf resemble? Describe the nuts. What is the shape of the external rind? What surrounds the nut? How many scars has the nut at one end? How do they differ? What is found inside the kernel? Where is the cocoa nut palm a native of? What is produced from the kernel of the nut? What is this oil used for? About how many nuts does a tree produce in a year? What is done with the fibrous coats which surround the nuts? What is it called when it has been dressed? Of what use is it? What are the leaves used for? What are the trunks made into? If the tree is bored whilst growing, what happens? What is the disease called? What is done with it?

THE BLIND BOY.

1. I stood one bright morn on the brow of the mountain,
And gazed on the beautiful landscape below;
Here a bright sunny mead, here a silvery fountain,
Shone forth as its rippling waves onward would flow;
And my spirit seem'd raised from the things of this earth,
And revell'd in scenes to which fancy gave birth.

2. The bright orb of day in full glory was shining,
 Diffusing its life-giving beams all around;
 And Nature, while scatt'ring her favours, was
 smiling,
 And gladness and pleasure were everywhere
 found;
 And I cried, "Who could gaze on a scene such
 as this,
 And not be absorb'd in the magic of bliss?"
3. A deep sigh was the echo which stole on my ear;
 I started, and turn'd from the brilliant scene,
 For my heart it was chill'd to think woe was so
 near
 When all nature seem'd rapt in a joy so serene,
 And discover'd, alas, that this heart-rending sigh
 Had its source in the breast of a boy who stood by.
4. My gay spirit was check'd—but I cried with
 surprise,
 "Canst thou look on a landscape with charms
 so replete,
 And not be inspired by those bright sunny skies
 With a joy which would all other passions de-
 feat?"
 The boy's answer was short, but it gave to my
 mind
 A thrill of keen anguish, 'twas,—“Alas, I am
 blind.”

brow, the edge.
 gazed, looked.
 landscape, view.
 mead, grass field.

absorbed, lost in one's
 self.
 brilliant, bright.
 serene, quiet.

revelled , rejoiced.	source , beginning.
orb , the sun.	replete , full of.
diffusing , spreading about.	anguish , pain.

moun-tain	a-round	chill-ed	sur-prise
beau-ti-ful	na-ture	seem-ed	in-spir-ed
foun-tain	smil-ing	scat-ter-ing	pas-sions
rip-pling	mag-ic	dis-cov-er-ed	heart-rend-ing

KEEPING A PROMISE.

1. A promise should be kept at all times and under all circumstances. Nothing but absolute impossibility should prevent this. This is a duty binding upon men and women of all ages, all ranks, and all conditions of life. The king has no more right to break his word, or fail to keep his promise, than the poorest subject in his kingdom. We must not say "I forgot," or "I did not think it would matter." No excuses of this kind will clear us from the wrong and sin of a broken promise.

2. Most of us have read the story of the famous battle of Waterloo. The name of the great commander, the Duke of Wellington, is well known. We all remember, when the battle was raging most fiercely, and the issue seemed doubtful, how anxious the brave Duke was for either the Prussians or night to come. He knew well that the Prussians were advancing to his help led by Marshal Blücher, and with that help the Duke felt sure of victory.

3. But the Duke little knew what difficulties were in the way of the advancing Prussians. The roads were very bad, and made much worse by excessive rain. The men were wearied with hard fighting and long marches. But Blucher encouraged his soldiers with words and actions. "Forwards, children! forwards!"—"It is impossible; it can't be done," was the reply. Again and again the brave hero urged them on. "Children," he again exclaimed to his struggling but loyal men, "we must get on. I have promised my brother Wellington. Yes, *promised!* You would not have me *break my word!*" Blucher kept his word, and the victory was secured.

4. A still more touching story is told of another great man, Sir William Napier. This man is distinguished both as a great soldier and as the author of the *History of the Peninsular War*. But we have not now to speak of his great deeds on the battle-field, but to show that he was good as well as great, and that he valued and honoured truth above everything else.

5. One day he was taking a long walk in the country, when he met a little girl, about five years old, sobbing and crying over a broken bowl. The child had been taking her father's dinner to the field where he was working, and on her return she had dropped the bowl and broken it. She feared that she would be beaten when she reached home. As Sir William was listening to the child's story, in a moment a gleam of hope seemed to cheer her. She looked up into Sir William's face, and said in her simple way,

"But you can mend it, can't you?" Sir William kindly explained to the child that mending the broken bowl was quite beyond his power, but he said he could help her to get another. He felt for a sixpence, but on opening his purse he found he had no silver in it. What was to be done? He promised to meet the child on the next day at the same time and place, and bring her a sixpence. In the meantime he bade her tell her mother that she had seen a gentleman who would bring some money on the next day, and that she was not to be beaten. The child believed him, and went home comforted.

6. On his return home Sir William found a note inviting him to dine at Bath to meet some one whom he was very anxious to see. For a few moments he hesitated, he then tried to see if there was time to meet his little friend at the appointed time, and afterwards go to the dinner. It could not be done. So he sat down, and wrote to decline the invitation, and, turning round to one of his family, he said, "I cannot disappoint the little child: she trusted me."

absolute, complete.

Waterloo, near Brussels,
the scene of Napoleon's
defeat by Wellington and
Blucher in 1815.

issue, result.

loyal, devoted.

Peninsular war, the war
in Spain and Portugal
between Wellington and
the generals of Napoleon
in 1808-1813.

hesitated, did not know
what to do.

prom-is-es

ex-cuse

ex-cess-ive

touch-ing

cir-cum-stan-ces

wrong

wea-ri-ed

dis-tin-guish-ed

im-pos-si-bil-i-ty

fierce-ly

en-cour-aged

dis-ap-point

What important lesson should be learnt by every boy and girl? Relate the story of Marshal Blucher. Who was Sir William Napier? Relate the story about him.

SPAIN.

1. Spain forms part of a large peninsula in the south-west of Europe. Very little was known of it or its people until the time of Julius Cæsar. He conquered the inhabitants, and made it into a Roman colony.

2. On the decay of the Roman Empire the country was invaded by a warlike tribe called the Visigoths, who came from the districts adjoining the Upper Danube. This tribe crossed the Pyrenees, and settled in the rich valleys of northern Spain.

3. The most remarkable invasion of Spain was, however, by the Moors, who invaded it about the year 711 A.D. The Moors were Mohammedans, and originally came from the northern districts of Africa. They crossed the Strait of Gibraltar, and founded a large kingdom in the south of Spain, which lasted seven hundred years.

4. These Moors were a brave and warlike people. They were also learned, and much farther advanced in civilization than the people they had conquered. They introduced into Spain many useful industries, which are even to this day carried on in the chief cities of the south. They also introduced into the parts of Spain which they had conquered, a peculiar

oriental style of building. One of the palaces erected



THE ALHAMBRA.

y them in Granada called the Alhambra is world-enowned for its beauty.

5. The Moors were expelled from Spain in the ear 1492, during the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella. It was in this same year that Columbus ~~dis~~

covered America. He had obtained the patronage of Queen Isabella, who ordered a fleet to be fitted out to enable him to make his discoveries.

6. Shortly after the discovery of America, Spain became very rich and powerful. She had conquered nearly all the West India Islands, Mexico, and the chief countries of South America. Immense quantities of gold and silver were brought from these countries to Spain; but as she treated the conquered people with great cruelty, and did not use her vast powers to promote their welfare, these colonies were of little benefit to her.

7. The south of Spain is hot and semi-tropical. Rice and maize are grown in abundance, and oranges, lemons, citrons, figs, olives, and grapes, attain great perfection. The climate in the north and west is mild, and here the great cork forests are found on the slopes of the mountains.

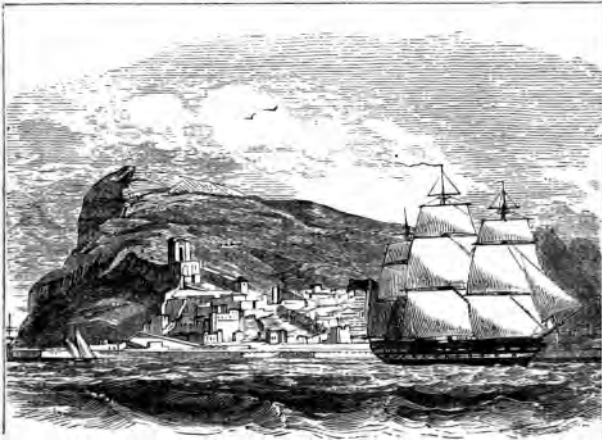
8. Spain suffers much from the loss of her forests, which foolishly have been cut down. Around Madrid, the capital, the country is almost treeless, and in consequence is dry and barren, although at one time it was very fruitful and productive.

9. The wild animals found in Spain are the wolf, bear, boar, and on the rock of Gibraltar the Barbary ape. Wild bulls are found in Andalusia. Mules of a fine breed are much used in the transport of goods across the precipitous mountains. The Merino sheep are natives of Spain, and are noted for their wool, which is long, silky, and of good quality.

10. One of the wonders of Spain is the famous palace of the Escorial, the largest palace in the world.

The ground plan is in the form of a gridiron. It is a dreary-looking building, built in a barren stony part of the country, about twenty-seven miles from Madrid. It was built by King Philip II. in memory of his victory over the French in 1563.

11. The exports of Spain are chiefly wine, nuts, oranges, wool, lemons, and cork, which is the bark of a tree growing in her forests.



12. One small part of Spain, called the Rock of Gibraltar, belongs to this country. It is a huge rock three miles long, and 1439 feet high, connected with Spain by a narrow low isthmus. It is very strongly fortified, and has numerous long galleries cut in the rock, in which are placed many cannon. This rocky fortress was taken from the Spaniards by the English, under Sir George Rooke, in the year 1704.

Several attempts have since been made by the French and Spaniards to re-take it from the English, but they have always been unsuccessful.

13. One siege by the soldiers and fleets of these two nations lasted four years, and was only raised by the English firing red hot shot at the combined fleets; thus setting the ships on fire, and causing their destruction.

Julius Cæsar, a Roman general who died 44 B.C.

conquered, overcame.

inhabitants, people.

Pyrenees, a range of mountains between

France and Spain.

civilization, culture.

Oriental, Eastern.

expelled, driven out.

immense, very large.

maize, Indian corn.

Columbus, the discoverer of America.

transport, to take from place to place.

gridiron, a cooking utensil.

Mexico, a country in Central America.

numerous, very many.

attempts, efforts.

connected, joined.

fleets, war ships.

in-vad-ed or-der-ed

in-va-sion en-a-ble

ad-vanc-ed per-fec-tion

in-dus-tries con-se-quence

Al-ham-bra Gib-ral-tar

pa-tron-age Mer-i-no

nu-mer-ous

pal-a-ces

quan-ti-ties

Span-i-ards

pen-in-su-la

re-mark-a-ble

o-ri-gin-al-ly

in-tro-duc-ed

pe-cu-li-ar

for-ti-fi-ed

A-mer-i-ca

pre-cip-it-ous

Where is Spain situated? What does it form part of? Who first conquered the inhabitants? Who was Julius Caesar? At what period did he live? What people afterwards conquered Spain? Where did the Visigoths come

from? Where did they settle? What nation afterwards conquered the south of Spain? Where did the Moors come from? What religion did they profess? Describe the Moors. What did they introduce into Spain? How long did they live in Spain? What splendid palace did they build? What sovereigns expelled them from Spain? In what year? What other remarkable event happened in this year? What countries did Spain conquer in America? Why have her colonies not done her much good? Name some fruits that grow in Spain. Name the wild animals found in Spain. What splendid breed of sheep are natives of Spain? What fine palace is Spain noted for? Who built it? What part of Spain belongs to England? What year was it taken from the Spaniards? What nations have since attempted to retake it from the English?

THE GOOD AND THE TRUE.

1. Nothing lasts that is not good;
 Nothing stands that is not true;—
 What a thing misunderstood,
 What a thought kept out of view!
O pretences, shams and cheats,
 You may strut your little day,—
But confusion swiftly meets,
 And surely drives you all away!
2. Never yet was Truth assail'd,
 But the struggle gave it strength;
“Great is Truth and has prevail'd,”
 Always comes to pass at length;

...wise and right;

...and think

...despite:

...the day.

...which hour:

...now.

...and then

...and then

...things are

...and then

...and then

...and then

...and then

...and then

...and then

...and then

misunderstood , looked at in the wrong way.	abjured , declared it false.
pretences , things that are not what they seem to be.	malice , spite.
assailed , attacked.	despite , in spite of.
slander , false and wicked remarks.	beguile , mislead.
	renounce , have nothing to do with it.
	sway , rule.

thought	swift-ly	fe-ver-ish	ea-ger
view	strug-gle	nose-gay	per-ish-es
con-fu-sion	bare-ly	for-ward	treas-ure

DEPEND ON YOUR OWN EXERTIONS.

A FAIRY TALE.

1. It was the close of the half year at midsummer; the boys had been striving hard to gain the first prize, and none more so than Harry Vernon. Harry was first so far, and to-morrow would decide who was victor. After the examination was over, some of Harry's companions were to spend the afternoon and evening with him.

2. In the afternoon they were to fly a new kite they had been making, to which Harry was to add the wings and tail. In the evening, they intended to act a little play which they had been learning for the occasion.

Harry's father and mother and some of their friends were to be the audience. The boys were very busy and anxious and happy, for the twentieth would be an *important* day for them.

3. On the afternoon before the examination, Harry took his books into the play-room, which was also the temporary theatre and workroom; here were the half-finished kite and the scenes for their acting. Harry was intending to complete them both after having prepared these, his last lessons for the half-year. He sat down and began to puzzle over his Latin; but though Harry was a good boy, and very industrious in a general way, it was such a lovely afternoon that he longed to join his younger brothers, who were having a capital game of football on the lawn.

4. "Oh, dear," sighed he, "I wish I lived in the time of the fairies, and that some kind fairy would do all I wanted her to do; I should ask her to make me know my lessons without the trouble of learning them, that I might have plenty of time for play!"

5. While he was thus dreamily musing, his head nodded over his book, and he thought he felt a light tap on his shoulder. Turning round, he saw a beautiful little lady, with a wand in her hand, standing near him.

She spoke:—"Harry, I am a fairy. I have heard your wish, and am able to grant it; read your lessons over, and you will find that you know them; and if you wish it, your kite and scenes shall also be finished."

6. Harry was, as you may think, exceedingly surprised, but recovering himself a little he said: "Oh, *thank* you; that will be delightful. I *should* like my *kite and scenes* to be finished too." The fairy waved

r wand, bade him read his lessons, and immediately disappeared. Harry did as he was desired, and found he had never known his lessons better.

7. He laid aside his books, put his kite ready for morrow, and after hastily arranging his scenes, took his hat and ran out to his brothers. They had famous afternoon's play, and Harry felt confident his prize, so perfectly did he know his lessons.

8. The next morning he set off in high spirits for school, where he did his duties well till it was his turn to say his lessons, but to his dismay found that he had altogether forgotten them. The fairy's power lasted only for a day. Poor Harry! all hope of his obtaining the prize was at an end. The master, who is very fond of him, and expected him to take the prize, looked surprised and vexed, not understanding such unusual carelessness and indifference.

9. On his return home he tried to entertain his friends, though self-reproach prevented his really being happy. They proceeded to the play-room for the kite, but on taking it up the wings fell to pieces. This looked like bad workmanship, but the boys said nothing to blame Harry, and very good-naturedly set to work to repair it. They were soon all at it and in high glee, for the kite sailed beautifully. After tea they proceeded to the little theatre, but as they stepped on the stage the scenes fell down and could not be made to stand, for the charm of the fairy's work was broken. There was not time to put them right, and they had to be put aside.

10. The players were vexed at the loss, but tried to make up for it by good acting, and gained much

applause. Yet Harry was not happy; he felt that by his want of determination he had disgraced himself, and disappointed his friends. He was thoroughly miserable, and could no longer bear up against his feelings of self-reproach, and fell into a long and bitter fit of crying. But while he was resolving that for the future he would depend upon his own exertions, since they alone were to be depended upon—

11. HE AWOKE, and found himself in the play-room, his book fallen on the floor, his brothers still playing on the lawn, and the kite and scenes in their unfinished state around him. He rubbed his eyes. Tired with his morning's work and excitement, he had gradually sunk to sleep, and dreamt of the fairy, her gift and its sad results.

12. This dream proved a useful one, and often in after life, when tempted to give way to a lazy feeling or to shirk a duty, he thought of it, and remembered that he should never have carried off that first prize with so much honour and happiness, nor have seen such merry faces, nor have had such capital acting, nor would the scenes have received so much admiration, had he given way to his feelings, instead of rousing up with a determination to go through with his duties on that eventful afternoon.

exertions, efforts.

victor, one who wins.

audience, company.

wand, rod.

temporary, for a short time.

confident, certain.

dismay, fright or terror.

proceeded, went.

self-reproach, blaming himself.

resolving, determining.

ceedingly , very much.	admiration , praise.
sired , told.	shirk , neglect.

rn-ing	in-tend-ed	mis-er-a-ble	ex-am-i-na-tion
a-plete	dream-i-ly	ex-cite-ment	re-cov-er-ing
z-zle	sur-pris-ed	hap-pi-ness	im-me-di-ate-ly
t-ball	ar-rang-ing	beau-ti-ful	al-to-geth-er
l-ly	care-less-ness	com-pan-i-ons	not-with-stand-ing
plause	pre-vent-ed	in-dus-tri-ous	grad-u-al-ly

What was the name of the boy who was striving hard to carry off the first prize? Who were coming to spend the afternoon and evening with Harry after the examination? How did he intend they should pass away the afternoon? Where did Harry go to learn his lessons the day before the examination? Who were playing on the lawn at that time? What wish did Harry express? While Harry was using what happened? Who did he think touched him on his shoulders? What did she say? Describe what followed. Why did this not really happen? What caused Harry to fall asleep? What effect had this dream on him?

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

1. I love to look on a scene like this,
 Of wild and careless play,
 And persuade myself that I am not old,
 And my locks are not yet gray;
 For it stirs the blood in an old man's heart,
 And makes his pulses fly,
 To catch the thrill of a happy voice,
 And the *light* of a pleasant eye.



2. I have walked the world for fourscore years,
And they say that I am old;
That my heart is ripe for the reaper Death,
And my years are well-nigh told.
It is very true—it is very true—
I'm told, and I "bide my time;"
But my heart will leap at a scene like this,
And I half renew my prime.



3. Play on! play on! I am with you there,
In the midst of your merry ring;
I can feel the thrill of the daring jump,
And the rush of the breathless swing.
I hide with you in the fragrant hay,
And I whoop the smothered call,
And my feet slip on the seedy floor,
And I care not for the fall.

4. I am willing to die when my time shall come,
 And I shall be glad to go,
 For the world at best is a weary place,
 And my pulse is getting low.
 But the grave is dark and the heart will fail
 In treading its gloomy way;
 And it wiles my heart from its dreariness,
 To see the young so gay.

fourscore, eighty.
 wiles, draws away.

bide, to wait.
 dreariness, loneliness.

care-less	re-new	smoth-er-ed	get-ting
per-suade	dar-ing	fra-grant	tread-ing
pleas-ant	breath-less	will-ing	drear-i-ness

JOHN METCALF, THE BLIND ROAD-MAKER.

1. We are often reminded in our daily experience of the great difficulties that can be overcome, and of the valuable results that can be obtained by energy, industry, and perseverance. The life of John Metcalf, as told by Dr. Smiles in his *Lives of the Early Engineers*, supplies a most valuable illustration of this fact. We can only give a brief account of this marvellous man, but enough will be told of him to show how much a strong will, united with a hardy frame, and a character of sterling integrity, can accomplish under circumstances that seem impossible to be overcome.

2. John Metcalf was born at Knaresborough, in Yorkshire, in 1717, the son of poor working people. At six years of age he was seized with small-pox, by

which his sight was totally destroyed. After his recovery he learnt to grope about, and in about six months' time he could find his way to the end of the street and back alone, and in three years he could run errands to any part of the town. He became an expert climber and swimmer, and on one occasion he saved the lives of three of his companions in the river Nidd, which ran close by his cottage-home. He became a capital rider, as well as a great walker. In his solitary rambles he soon knew every foot of ground for miles round Knaresborough.

3. During the evenings at home he learnt to play the fiddle, and often earned money by playing at country parties.

4. Towards dusk, on one occasion, he acted as guide to a gentleman from York to Harrogate, a most difficult road at that time, full of windings, and, in many places, a mere track across open moors. The gentleman never discovered that his guide was utterly blind until he arrived safely at Harrogate.

5. Like most industrious men, Metcalf was also a thrifty man. He saved money, bought a horse of his own, and became a good huntsman. He travelled about a great deal, and once when in London, being anxious to return to Harrogate, which is very near his native town, he refused the offer of a seat in a gentleman's carriage, preferring to walk, and saying he could easily walk as far in a day as the carriage would go. Thus this blind man preferred to walk on an unknown road a distance of 200 miles, and actually reached his journey's end two days before the carriage. This will enable us


to understand how wretched the roads must then have been.

6. More strange still is it to find this blind fiddler marching in a blue and buff uniform and a gold-laced hat at the head of a volunteer regiment into Scotland to help to put down the rebellion of the Young Pretender in 1745. His regiment suffered severely in an engagement near Falkirk, and many were taken prisoners of war. Metcalf, though he escaped unhurt, endured many hardships, and incurred most serious risks.

7. It was not until he was nearly fifty years old that he entered upon the great business of his life upon which his fame depends—that of a road-maker. Up to this time it was not considered necessary to have any special skill for making roads, so the business was left to any one who might chance to take it up. Hence this poor blind man, who had not been brought up as an engineer, or even as a mechanic, who had no practical experience in the arts of surveying and bridge-building, but who was a man of extraordinary natural gifts, was our first extensive road-maker and bridge-builder, and a most successful one. For nearly thirty years he was engaged in this laborious occupation. At Boroughbridge it was necessary to build a bridge, and Metcalf, although frankly stating that he never had constructed one, applied for the work, and showed so much practical knowledge that he obtained it.

8. He then agreed to make the short road between *Knaresborough* and *Harrogate*, with every foot of

which he was already familiar. "Walking one day," says Dr. Smiles, "over a portion of the ground on which the road was to be made, while still covered with grass, he told the workmen that he thought it differed from the ground adjoining it, and he directed them to try for stone or gravel underneath, and, strange to say, not many feet down the men came upon the stones of an old Roman causeway, from which he obtained much valuable material for the making of his new road. At another part of the contract there was a bog to be crossed, and the surveyor thought it impossible to make a road over it. Metcalf assured him that he could readily accomplish it, on which the other offered, if he succeeded, to pay him for the straight road the price which he would have to pay if the road were constructed round the bog. Metcalf set to work accordingly, and had a large quantity of furze and ling laid upon the bog, over which he spread layers of gravel. The plan answered effectually, and when the materials had become consolidated it proved one of the best parts of the road."

9. He continued at this occupation until he was seventy-five years of age, and then retired to a farm. He lived to be nearly ninety-three, and then this strong-hearted and resolute man peacefully departed, having left behind, as an imperishable legacy, the memory of one who had shown in his long and marvellous career what can be accomplished by steady, unflinching perseverance and energy, amid difficulties and privations which might have condemned many  men to helpless poverty and obscurity.

experience , what we learn through life.	thrifty , saving.
illustration , proof.	familiar , fully acquainted with.
sterling , real.	consolidated , hardened.
integrity , nobleness.	resolute , strong.
expert , skilful.	unflinching , never giving way.
solitary , by himself.	imperishable , that will never die.
volunteer , raised at pri- vate expense and not by government.	privations , wants.

per-se-ver-ance	oc-ca-sion	pre-fer-ring	spe-ci-al
en-gin-eers	earn-ed	ac-tu-al-ly	me-chan-ic
char-ac-ter	guide	reg-i-ment	ex-tra-or-di-na-ry
to-tal-ly	trav-el-led	re-bel-li-on	suc-cess-ful
re-cov-er-y	anx-i-ous	bus-i-ness	leg-a-cy
er-rands	car-ri-age	ne-ces-sa-ry	con-demn-ed

What lesson does the life of Metcalf teach us? When and where was he born? How did he become blind? What could he do as a blind child? Describe his return from London to Harrogate. On what occasion did he go into Scotland? What was the great business of his life? At what age did he enter upon this business? Where did he build his first bridge? What short road did he first construct? What did he find when making that road? What difficulty had he to overcome? Show how he overcame it. At what age did he die? What legacy did he leave behind?



THE DATE TREE.

1. The date tree is one of the large family of palms. It is a native of both Asia and Africa, and



will grow readily on any sandy soil where the climate is not too cold. The cultivation of this tree is an object of the highest importance in the countries of the East. In the interior of Barbary, in Egypt, in the drier districts of Syria, and in Arabia, it is almost the sole object of agriculture.

2. The date palm is a majestic tree rising to the height of sixty feet and upwards without branch or division, and of uniform thickness throughout its entire length. Its trunk is elegantly divided by rings. From its summit it throws out a crown of large leaves which are equally graceful in their formation and arrangement. The tree

begins to bear fruit about eight years after it has been planted, and continues to be productive for from seventy to one

hundred years. The fruit is disposed in ten to twelve long pendent clusters from the summit. These clusters sometimes weigh from twenty to twenty-five pounds each.

3. Dates form the principal food of the inhabitants of some of the countries of the East, and are an



FRUIT OF THE DATE PALM.

important article of commerce. They are oval in shape, having a large stone. The best are firm and of a yellow colour. They are sugary, nourishing, and require no preparation. When they are intended to be eaten fresh they are allowed to ripen perfectly. In this state they possess a delicious per-

fume, and are very refreshing and agreeable to the taste. Ripe dates cannot, however, be kept any length of time or conveyed to any great distance without fermenting or becoming acid. Those, therefore, which are intended for storing up, or for being sent to a distant market, are gathered a little before they are ripe, and dried in the sun on mats. The travellers in the desert often carry with them a bag of dried dates as their only or chief subsistence during a journey of many hundreds of miles. The Arabs make what they call date flour by grinding the dried dates to powder. It is packed in tight sacks, and if stowed away from the damp will keep for years. This is food in its most compact form, easily carried about, and requiring no cooking. It has only to be moistened with a little water, and the meal is ready for eating.

4. Almost every part of this valuable tree is converted to some use. The trunk is hard, and answers well for posts, railings, and other coarse purposes; the fibrous parts are made into ropes. The leaves are manufactured into hats, mats, and baskets. The stalks of the bunches as well as the kernel are softened by boiling water, and used for feeding cattle. From the sap, which is collected by cutting off the head of the palm and scooping out a hollow in its stem, palm wine is made. The branches, under the name of *palm*, are sent in very considerable quantities to Italy and other southern countries of Europe, to be used in the grand religious ceremonies of Palm Sunday.

5. The date palm is most abundant on the margin

of the mighty desert which extends, with few interruptions, from the shores of the Atlantic to the confines of Persia, an extent of nearly 4000 miles. Over this vast region, and in the smaller oases, it raises its trunk and spreads its branches, and is the sole vegetable monarch of the thirsty land. The sight of the date tree is always welcome to the wanderer of the desert. It announces to him a halting place, with food and cool shadow overhead, and wells of water underneath. Associated with glad tidings of rest and refreshment, it naturally has been looked upon, from remote ages, as a symbol of triumph and rejoicing.

productive, bearing fruit.

disposed, arranged.

pendent, hanging.

principal, chief.

commerce, trade.

oval, like an egg.

conveyed, carried.

converted, turned.

ceremonies, outward forms.

manufactured, made.

margin, border.

mighty, very large.

confines, boundaries.

oases, fertile spots in the desert.

announces, makes known.

remote, far back.

symbol, sign.

dis-trib-uts read-i-ly

through-out ma-jes-tic

pos-sess di-vi-sion

jour-ney e-qual-ly

fi-brous ar-ti-cle

mon-arch fer-ment-ing

tri-umph be-com-ing

ar-range-ment cul-ti-va-tion

trav-el-ler ag-ri-cul-ture

val-u-a-ble el-e-gant-ly

soft-en-ed con-sid-er-a-ble

quan-ti-ties in-ter-rup-tions

un-der-neath as-so-ci-at-ed

de-li-ci-ous na-tu-ral-ly

Where is the cultivation of the date an object of the highest importance? Name any countries where it is

cultivated. Describe the trunk of the date tree. The leaves. How does the fruit grow? Describe the fruit. Why cannot ripe dates be kept any length of time? How are dates preserved? What do the Arabs make from the date? How is it made? Name any of the uses of the date tree. Where is the date tree most abundant? Why is the sight of the date tree welcome to the wanderer in the desert?

BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

1. A gentle voice, a heartfelt sigh,
A modest blush, a speaking eye,
A manner unaffected, free;
These things are beautiful to me.
2. A ready hand, a loving heart,
A sympathy that's free from art,
A real friend among the few;
These things are beautiful and true.
3. A mother's prayer, an answer mild,
An aged sire, a little child,
A happy home, a cheerful hearth;
These things are beautiful on earth.
4. A joyful song, a chorus sweet,
An earnest soul and willing feet,
A day of peace, a night of rest;
These things are beautiful and blest.
5. A sister's love, a brother's care,
A spotless name, a jewel rare,

A cleanly tongue that will not lie;
These things are beautiful—and why?

6. Because they all are born of love,
And emanate from God above,
An earnest of the heavenly birth;
These things are beautiful on earth.

modest, shy.

unaffected, natural.

sympathy, fellow feeling.

art, pretence.

sire, father.

hearth, fireplace.

spotless, pure.

emanate, come from.

gen-tle

lov-ing

beau-ti-ful

heav-en-ly

heart-felt

joy-ful

jew-el

ear-nest

speak-ing

cho-rus

clean-ly

tongue



THE GENEROUS BOY.

1. The sun had set, and the curtains of night were fast hanging themselves over hill-top and valley, the lonely wood and the busy village. While the night winds were beginning to sweep through the trees, lights were here and there peeping through the windows, to tell that though the wind was cold and blustering without, there might be peace and comfort within.

2. At this hour, my friend Mr. Bradley passed through a little village among the Hampshire hills, and urging his horse forward as the night became darker, took his way through the main road towards the next town, where he intended to pass the night. As he passed the last house in the village, he thought he heard some one call; but supposing it might be some boy shouting to his friends, he thought little of it. He heard the call again and again, and at last, on hearing it repeated several times in succession, it occurred to him that some one might wish to speak to him; he slackened the pace of his horse, and looked behind the chaise to see if he could discover who was calling.

3. "Stop, sir!" said a little boy who was running with all his might to overtake him.

Mr. Bradley stopped his horse, and a little boy of about ten years old came up, panting at every breath.

"Well, my little fellow, what do you wish for?" said Mr. Bradley.

"You are losing your trunk, sir," answered the boy, as soon as he could speak.

"And so you have run all this way to tell me of it, have you, my good boy?"

"Yes, sir."

4. Mr. Bradley jumped out of the chaise, and saw that his trunk, which was strapped underneath his carriage, was unfastened at one end, so that a sudden jolt might have loosened it altogether, and he would have lost it without knowing how it had gone.

"You are very kind, my little lad," said the gentleman, "to take all this trouble; you have saved me from losing my trunk, and I feel much obliged to you."

"You are welcome," answered the boy.

"And now, are you tall enough to hold my horse while I fasten the trunk as it should be?" said Mr. Bradley.

"Oh yes, sir," said the boy, stepping up and taking hold of the bridle. He held the horse till Mr. Bradley was ready to start, and then said, "Good night, sir," and was stepping away.

5. "Stop a moment," said Mr. Bradley, taking a half-crown from his pocket; "here is some money to pay you for your trouble, and I feel very grateful to you besides."

"No, sir," said the boy, drawing himself up erect, and casting his eye full in Mr. Bradley's face; "do you think I would take money for such a thing as that?"

6. "Ah!" said Mr. Bradley, as he related the story to me, "I saw by his noble look, that he had run from *half to three-quarters* of a mile for the sake of

doing a kindness to a stranger, and not for the hope of pay; and I could not find it in my heart to urge him to take money, for I knew that the thought of having done good was a greater reward to him than money could have been. So I bade him good-night, and he ran toward home, while I rode briskly on; but I often think of that journey of mine through Hampshire, and the noble-hearted boy who lived among its hills."

blustering,	blowing	succession,	one after
roughly.			another.
chaise,	a carriage.	related,	told.

cur-tains	in-tend-ed	suc-ces-sion	un-fast-en-ed
be-gin-ning	sup-pos-ing	oc-cur-red	jour-ney
blus-ter-ing	re-pent-ed	slack-en-ed	re-lat-ed

What part of the day did this incident occur? Where was the little village situated? What was the name of the gentleman who passed through it? How old was the little boy who ran after him? How much money did the gentleman offer to the boy? Why did he take all this trouble?





WISHES AND REALITIES.

A CHILD'S WISHES.

1. "I wish I were a little bird,
To fly so far and high,
And sail along the golden clouds,
And through the azure sky.
2. "I'd be the first to see the sun
Up from the ocean spring;
And ere it touch'd the glittering spire,
His ray should gild my wing.
3. "Above the hills I'd watch him still,
Far down the crimson west;
And sing to him my evening song,
Ere yet I sought my rest.

1. I am not now how we missed you and your
 sister. But we shall see you in ten years almost
 sure. The old and the new are not many of
 the changes. The time stream that winds
 round the old world as a river, all is now dashes
 and flows on the road with impetuous speed as
 it has sought the sea for you. The wav-
 ing branches of the weeping willow drooped until
 they were as stiff as the weeping willow. The
 dark shadows of the old and night have grown
 even darker. The wind has made a piteous moan-
 ing and every leaf seemed to shake with a sigh.

2. Now will you look sad and say you're sorry
 to have caused so much sadness and trouble by your
 absence and promise never never to leave us again?
 Oh no, you will only look down with that same
 provoking smile which seems to say, "I'm always
 happy." Will you be so? and away you go
 dancing with your sisters in the wall again, just as
 though you had heard no tale of sorrow.

3. You seem to carry the elements of your own
 happiness with you. You never appear to see any-
 thing gloomy, for your smile makes everything
 bright and joyous before you. Even in the mournful
 black clouds that admonish us of a coming storm,
 you seem to see nothing gloomy or sombre, but
 frolic among them, and light them up with such
 splendour that one loves them in spite of the fore-
 bodings they bring.

4. You're not much like some persons of my ac-
 quaintance. They might more properly be com-
 pared to a cloud coming between the earth and

the sun, and then looking round upon the earth and complaining because everything looked so gloomy. One comes to my mind whom I might designate by the name of "Rain-Cloud." She may go into the brightest places, where every variety of beautiful flowers is found, and graceful trees bend over a sparkling stream, but in a short time the rain will begin to fall, and the bright spot will be completely changed by her presence.

6. But away you go. You hardly linger to listen to my words. Well, stay or not, pretty sunbeam, I'm glad you've been with us even a little while. You've already changed the frown of the stream to a sparkling smile, and given your own bright look to everything around.

7. And you not only make all the earth bright and beautiful, but you make the people on it light-hearted and joyous. Why, even that poor old man, just hobbling up the street, who is always the picture of sadness and discontent, has been known to smile since you came back.

8. The animals and insects, too, seem to rejoice at your presence. The flies all the time you were away either walked lazily upon the wall, or persisted in frequent personal interviews with me, notwithstanding intimations by way of a gentle brush that their presence was not agreeable. But at your coming they roused themselves, and flew merrily round the room, and told their joy by their "buzz, buzz," on the window-glass. The kitten that lazily dozed on the hearth arose with a prolonged stretch, and ran away to frolic in your light. There is ~~no~~

thing which does not wear a brighter hue when you are near.

9. But whence all this power to diffuse light and joy around you wherever you are? Whence your light? Ah! as I glance at you, each sparkling ray reflected upward speaks the same language: "From the Source of all light we come;" and softly a sweet voice seems to whisper: "Such are those sunbeam friends of mine." From the Source of all light and joy comes the radiance which attends their footsteps, and lightens the lives of all to whom they draw near.

deserted, forsaken.

majestic, very dignified.

impetuous, furious.

persisted, insisted on.

im-ag-in-ed

in-hab-it-ants

im-pet-u-ous

pit-e-ous

rus-tled

pro-vok-ing

el-e-ments

ad-mon-ish

fore-bod-ings

ac-quaint-ance

in-ter-views

ra-di-ance

What kept the sunbeam away so long? How did the little stream flow? What happened to the elms? What did the sunbeam always seem to say? Into what did the sunbeam change the frown of the stream? How did the flies walk about in the absence of the sunbeam?



RUSSIA.

1. The three greatest empires in the world are the British, the Russian, and the Chinese. Of these the Russian is the largest, the Chinese the most populous, and the British the most varied in position, climate, and people.

2. Russia extends from the borders of Germany in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east, and covers nearly 8,000,000 square miles. It is mostly a flat country, excepting one part of it in the south-east of Europe, and another in the newly conquered provinces in Central Asia. Indeed, all Russia may be considered as one vast plain, covered with never-ending forests, and watered by great sluggish rivers.

3. The country is very thinly inhabited, and the people are poor; but owing to its vast extent, the revenues derived by the Czar, or Emperor, are very great, and make him rich and powerful.

4. The trees in the great forests are chiefly pine, fir, larch, elder, and birch. Wild animals are very numerous. The principal are deer, wild boars, bears, wolves, gluttons, badgers, foxes, otters, ermines, and squirrels. The reindeer is found in the extreme north, and lions are not uncommon in the newly acquired provinces adjoining Persia.

5. The exports of Russia are mostly the products of her forests or fields, and consist of timber, pitch, hemp and flax, hides and tallow, choice furs and corn.

6. The south of Russia, including the peninsula of the Crimea, is warm and dry. In this part of Russia are the "steppes," which are vast undulating plains, mostly without a single tree, but covered with luxuriant grass. The steppes are inhabited by tribes of pastoral Tartars, who own large herds of sheep, cattle, and Bactrian camels. These tribes are excellent horsemen, and there are many regiments of them in the Russian army under the name of Cossacks. Near the ports of the Black Sea these steppes are cultivated, and an immense quantity of grain is raised, which is exported to foreign countries.

7. The people of Russia are quiet and industrious. They are very fond of their Czar, and regard him with almost superstitious reverence. The religion of the people is that of the Greek Church, and cathedrals, monasteries, and churches are very numerous. The wealth of some of the monasteries is fabulous, consisting mostly of gold and silver plate, which has been accumulating for centuries. The clergy are in general very badly educated.

8. Until the reign of the Emperor Alexander III., the great majority of the peasants of Russia were serfs, or slaves, and belonged to the lord who owned the land on which they lived. They differed from the slaves in other parts of the world, in that they could not be sold off the land, and only changed masters when the property was sold. The result of this kind of feudal system was, that the peasants were very *much* oppressed, heavily taxed, and unable to *improve* their position by migrating to the large

towns. Some of the nobles, however, used to allow their serfs to enter into trade, and instances were well known of rich merchants who were the serfs of some little feudal lord.

9. To the great credit of Alexander III., he enfranchised them all by an edict, and since that event the lot of the peasantry has much improved.



RUSSIAN SLEDGE.

10. Travelling in Russia is very slow and very expensive. In winter it is carried on by means of sledges, and in summer by means of tarantors, or Russian coaches. The Russian

drivers decorate their horses with bells, and make so much noise that the traveller has not much chance to go to sleep on the road.

11. The Russians are very fond of bells and bell ringing. In some of their large churches they have several hundreds, and they have cast one bell that they have never yet been able to hang or ring. It is the size of a small house, and weighs 200 tons.

12. Russia had but little intercourse with the rest of Europe until the time of Peter the Great, and the people themselves were but little raised above a state of barbarism. Peter, however, who saw that without foreign commerce it would be impossible to improve the state of his people, visited Holland and England,

and even worked as a ship carpenter. He also sent many young men abroad to be educated, and was the founder of the present greatness of Russia.

populous, full of people.
sluggish, slow in flowing.
revenues, taxes.
accumulating, increasing.

Pacific, a large ocean between America and Asia.

decorate, to adorn.

commerce, trade with other nations.

exports, productions sent out of the country.

peasants, farm labourers.

luxuriant, very abundant and rich.

Bactrian camel, a camel with two humps.

majority, the largest number.

enfranchised, set free.

edict, a proclamation.

feudal system, an old system of paying taxes by giving service to the owner of the land.

em-pires	pos-i-tion	op-press-ed	bar-bar-ism
squir-rels	scarc-i-ty	mi-grat-ing	un-du-lat-ing
pro-ducts	ac-quir-ed	ex-pen-sive	pen-in-su-la
im-mense	pas-to-ral	in-ter-course	cul-ti-vat-ed
fab-u-lous	ed-u-ca-ted	su-per-sti-tious	ac-cu-mu-lat-ing

Name the three greatest empires in the world. Which of these is the largest? Which is the most populous? Which is the most varied in climate and people? Where is the Pacific Ocean? How many square miles does Russia cover? In what parts of Russia are the hills? Why is the emperor very rich? Name the principal timber trees found in Russia. Name some of the wild animals. Where is the reindeer found? In what part of Russia are lions sometimes seen? Name the chief exports. What are the steppes? What are the people

who live on these steppes called? What are Bactrian camels? What is a serf? What emperor set them free? What is an edict? What vehicles do the Russians use for travelling? What are the Russians fond of hanging in their churches? What is the weight of their largest bell? Name the emperor who did so much for Russia.



GREAT BELL OF MOSCOW.

NEVER GIVE UP.

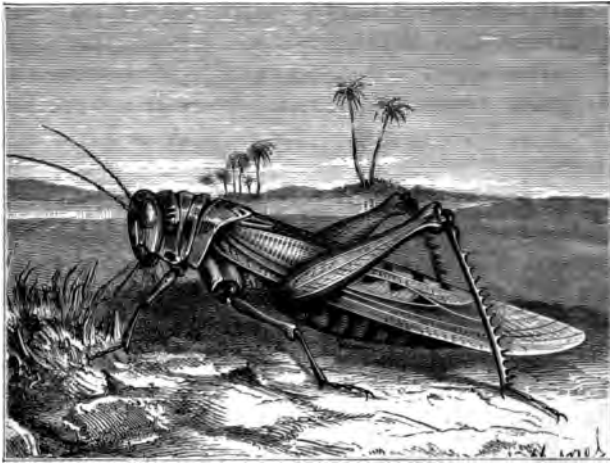
1. Never give up! it is wiser and better
Always to hope than once to despair!
Fling off the load of Doubt's heavy fetter,
And break the dark spell of tyrannical Care.
Never give up! or the burden may sink you;
Providence kindly has mingled the cup,
And in all trials or troubles bethink you
The watchword of life must be, "Never give up!"

2. Never give up! there are chances and changes
 Helping the hopeful a hundred to one,
 And through the chaos High Wisdom arranges
 Ever success—if you'll only hope on.
 Never give up! for the wisest is boldest,
 Knowing that Providence mingles the cup;
 And of all maxims the best, as the oldest,
 Is the true watchword of "Never give up!"
3. Never give up! though the grape-shot may rattle,
 Or the full thunder-cloud over you burst.
 Stand like a rock, and the storm or the battle
 Little shall harm you, though doing the worst.
 Never give up! if adversity presses,
 Providence wisely has mingled the cup;
 And the best counsel in all your distresses
 Is the stout watchword of "Never give up!"

fetter, an iron chain to
 bind a prisoner.
mingled, mixed.
maxim, a wise saying.
grape-shot, small shot
 fastened together in a
 bunch.

watchword, a word
 given, so that soldiers
 may know their friends.
adversity, trouble.
counsel, advice.
rattle, a sharp noise.

doubts	though	bur-den	dis-tress-es
chang-es	trou-bles	wis-est	pro-vi-dence
chanc-es	de-spair	ar-rang-es	ty-ran-ni-cal



THE LOCUST.

1. The most interesting tribe of straight-winged insects, because the most formidable, is the locust. In shape it closely resembles the cricket which is often found in old houses, and the common grass-hopper of our fields.

2. This insect is about three inches in length, or, reckoning the two horns or feelers on its head, four inches. The body of the locust is of various colours—the head and horns are brownish; the mouth and the inside of the larger legs, blue; the shield that covers the back, green; the upper side of the body, brown spotted with black; and the under side, purple.

3. The upper wings are brown, with small dusky spots. The under wings are more transparent, and

of a lighter brown tinged with green, with a cloud of dark spots near the tips.

4. This insect is truly a terrible scourge to the countries where it is found. There is no creature that multiplies so fast, if the weather be warm and the soil on which it lays its eggs, dry. Happily for us, the coldness of our climate, and the humidity of our soil, are not favourable to the production of locusts: if they visit this country they soon perish.

5. When locusts take to the field they have a leader, to whose flight and motions they pay strict attention. At a distance they appear like a black cloud, which gathers upon the horizon, and almost hides the light of day.

6. When the husbandmen see the locusts coming, they make large fires, beat tins, and do all they can to frighten them away. They are seldom successful, and the locusts settle down in the district in such numbers that the ground is sometimes covered with them to a depth of two or three inches.

7. They commence at once to ravage the meadow and pasture grounds, and to eat up every green thing. In a short time the trees are all stripped of their leaves, the flowers and vegetables destroyed, and the once green pasture becomes a bare brown patch.

8. In the south of Russia, visitations of locusts are frequent and much dreaded. A traveller, Dr. Clarke, writing about them, says, "We now began to perceive the truth of those surprising stories which we had often heard and read.

9. "The steppes were entirely covered with their

bodies, which, in falling, resembled flakes of snow carried obliquely by the wind, spreading a thick mist over the sun. Myriads fell over the carriage, the horses, and the drivers.

10. "The stories of these insects told us by the Tartars were even more marvellous than we had before heard. They said that instances had occurred of persons being suffocated by a swarm of locusts in the steppes. It was now the season, they added, in which their numbers began to diminish. When they first make their appearance, a dark cloud is seen very high in the air, which, as it passes, obscures the sun.

11. "I had always supposed the stories of the locusts to exaggerate their real appearance, but found their swarms so astonishing, in all the steppes over which we passed, that the whole face of nature might be described as concealed under a living veil."

12. In some parts of the world the inhabitants turn what seems a plague to their own advantage. Locusts are caught in small nets and are eaten by the natives in many countries in the East.

13. They parch them over the fire in an earthen pan, and when their legs and wings have fallen off they turn reddish, like boiled shrimps. Dampier, a traveller, has eaten them thus prepared, and thinks them a tolerable dish.

14. The natives of Barbary also eat them fried with salt, and they are said to taste like cray-fish. In some parts of Asia they are fried in oil or butter, and are then very palatable.

15. A wonderful description of one of their ravages is given by a sacred historian. "They covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened, and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees, and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs, or in the field, throughout all the land of Egypt."

dusky, dark.

terrible, fearful.

obliquely, in a slanting manner.

humidity, dampness.

ravage, destroy.

Steppes, large plains in S. Russia.

formidable, causing fear.

marvellous, wonderful.

exaggerate, to increase.

concealed, hidden.

Barbary, a country in N. Africa.

myriads, immense numbers.

in-sects

nu-mer-ous

in-ter-est-ing

for-mid-a-ble

crick-et

trans-pa-rent

suc-cess-ful

pro-vid-ed

shield

pro-duc-tion

oc-cur-red

his-tor-i-an

clim-ate

ap-proach-es

as-ton-ish-ing

tra-vel-ler

What insects found in this country does the locust resemble? What is its length? Why is this insect so terrible? Why is it not often found in this country? When a swarm of locusts is seen flying in the air, what does it resemble? What do the husbandmen do when they see them coming? When the locusts alight on the ground, what happens? Name some country they often visit. What are they used for in some parts? How are they caught? How are they cooked? What fish do they taste like? How are they cooked in Barbary?



THE LOCUST.

1. The locust is fierce and strong and grim,
And an armèd man is afraid of him:
He comes like a wingèd shape of dread,
With his shielded back and his armèd head,
And his double wings for hasty flight,
And a keen, unwearying appetite.
2. He comes with famine and fear along,
An army a million million strong;
The Goth and the Vandal, and dwarfish Hun,
With their swarming people, wild and dun,
Brought not the dread that the locust brings,
When is heard the rush of their myriad wings.
3. From the deserts of burning sand they speed,
Where the lions roam and the serpents breed;
Far over the sea, away, away!
And they darken the sun at noon of day,
Like Eden the land before they find,
But they leave it a desolate waste behind.
4. The peasant grows pale when he sees them come,
And standeth before them weak and dumb;
For they come like a raging fire in power,
And eat up a harvest in half an hour;
And the trees are bare, and the land is brown,
As if trampled and trod by an army down.
5. There is terror in every monarch's eye,
When he hears that this terrible foe is nigh,
For he knows that the might of an armèd host
Cannot drive the spoiler from out his coast,

That terror and famine his land await,
And from north to south 'twill be desolate.

6. Thus, the ravening locust is strong and grim;
And what were an armed host to him?
Fire turns him not, nor sea prevents,
He is stronger by far than the elements!
The broad green earth is his prostrate prey,
And he darkens the sun at noon of day!

grim, ugly and terrible.

unwearying, never becoming satisfied.

appetite, desire for food.

Vandals, an ancient German nation that conquered Spain and N. Africa.

Huns, a race of Tartars, small in size, who came from Asia and conquered many parts of Europe.

Goths, an ancient German nation that conquered Italy.

monarch, a sovereign.

prevents, hinders.

terrible, fearful.

desolate, waste barren land.

deserts, waste lands.

prostrate, lying at length.

coast, border.

ravening, eager for plunder.

arm-ed

fam-ine

peas-ant

tram-pled

wing-ed

dwarf-ish

ter-ror

pre-vents

flight

ser-pents

spoil-er

rav-en-ing

A THRILLING INCIDENT.

1. Our noble ship lay at anchor in the Bay of Tangiers, a fortified town in the extreme north-west of Africa. The day had been extremely mild, with a

gentle breeze sweeping to the northward and westward; but towards the close of the afternoon the sea-breeze died away, and one of those sultry, oven-like breathings came from the great, sun-burnt Sahara.

2. Half an hour before sundown, the captain gave the cheering order for the boatswain to call the hands to "go on swimming;" and, in less than five minutes, the forms of our tars were seen leaping from the arms of the lower yards into the water. One of the studding sails, with its corners suspended from the main yard-arm and the swinging boom, had been lowered into the water, and into this most of the swimmers made their way.

3. Among those who seemed to be enjoying the sport most heartily were two of the boys, Timothy Wallace and Frederick Fairbanks, the latter of whom was the son of our old gunner; and, in a laughing mood, they started out from the studding sail on a race. There was a loud ringing shout of joy on their lips as they put off; they darted through the water like fishes. The surface of the sea was smooth as glass, though its bosom rose in long, heavy swells that set in from the Atlantic.

4. The vessel was moored with a long sweep from both cables, and one of the buoys of the anchor was far away on the starboard quarter, where it rose and fell with the lazy swell of the waves. Towards this buoy the two lads made their way, young Fairbanks taking the lead, but, when they were within twenty or thirty fathoms of the buoy, Wallace shot ahead and promised to win the race.

5. The old gunner had watched the progress of his son with a great degree of pride; and when he saw him drop behind, he leaped upon the quarter-deck, and was just upon the point of urging him on by a shout, when a cry was heard that struck him with instant horror.

6. "A shark! a shark!" was sounded from the captain of the fore-castle; and, at the sound of those



terrible words, the men who were in the water, leaped and plunged towards the ship. At the distance of three or four cables' lengths was seen the wake of a shark in the water, where the back of the monster was visible. His course was for the boys.

7. For a moment the gunner stood like one bereft of reason; but, immediately he shouted at the top of

his voice for the boys to turn; but they heard him not. Stoutly the two swimmers strove for the goal, all unconscious of their imminent danger. Their merry laugh still rang over the waters, and at length they both touched the buoy together.

8. Oh, what agony filled the heart of the gunner! A boat had put off, but he knew it could not reach the boys in season, and every moment he expected to see the monster sink from sight,—*then* he knew that all hope would be gone. At this moment a cry reached the ship, that pierced every heart,—the boys had discovered their enemy.

9. The cry started the old gunner to his senses, and, quicker than thought, he sprang from the quarter-deck. The guns were all loaded and shotted, fore and aft, and none knew their temper better than he. With steady hand, made strong by sudden hope, the old gunner seized a priming-wire and pricked the cartridge of one of the quarter guns; then he took from his pocket a percussion cap, fixed it on its place, and set back the hammer of the patent lock.

10. With great exertions the old man swayed the breach of the heavy gun to its bearing, and then seizing the string of the lock he stood back and watched for the next swell that would bring the shark in range. He had aimed the piece some distance ahead of his mark; but yet a moment would settle his hopes and fears.

11. Every breath was hushed, and every heart in that old ship beat painfully. The boat was yet some distance from the boys, while the horrid sea-monster was fearfully near. Suddenly the air was rent by

the roar of the heavy gun, and, as the old man knew his shot was gone, he sank back upon the hatch, and covered his face with his hands, as if afraid to see the results of his own efforts, for, if he had failed, he knew that his boy was lost.

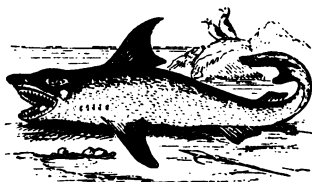
12. For a moment after the report of the gun had died away upon the air, there was an unbroken silence, but, as the dense smoke arose from the surface of the water, there was, at first, a low murmur breaking from the lips of the men,—that murmur grew louder and stronger, till it swelled to a joyous deafening shout. The old gunner sprang to his feet, and gazed off on the water, and the first thing that met his view was the huge carcass of the shark floating on his back, a mangled lifeless mass.

13. In a few moments the boat reached the daring swimmers, and, greatly frightened, they were brought on board. The old man clasped his boy in his arms, and then, overcome by the powerful excitement, he leaned upon a gun for support.

fortified , strengthened by forts and other works of art for defence.	starboard , right side of the ship.
sultry , oppressively hot and close.	forecastle , short deck in the fore part of the ship.
boatswain , one who has charge of a ship's boats and rigging.	wake , track.
tars , sailors.	bereft , deprived.
moored , anchored.	goal , the end aimed at.
suspended , hung.	imminent , near at hand.
buoys , floats.	fore and aft , before and behind.
	swayed , moved.

Sahara, a great desert in Africa.	carcass, dead body. excitement, agitation.
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Where is the town of Tangiers? What cheering order had the captain given the boatswain? Name the two boys who seemed to enjoy the sport very heartily. Towards what object were the boys making their way? What did the captain discover not far from them? To whom was one of the boys related? What effect had the captain's words on the gunner? Describe afterwards what the gunner did. What effect did his shot produce?



TO MY MOTHER.

1. And canst thou, mother, for a moment think,
That we, thy children, when old age shall shed
Its blanching honours on thy weary head,
Could from our best of duties ever shrink?

2. Sooner the sun from his bright sphere shall sink,
Than we ungrateful leave thee on that day,
To pine in solitude thy life away,
Or shun thee tottering on the grave's cold brink.

3. Banish the thought!—where'er our steps may roam,
 O'er smiling plains, or wastes, without a tree,
 Still will fond memory point our hearts to thee,
 And paint the pleasures of thy peaceful home;
 While duty bids us all thy griefs assuage,
 And smooth the pillow of thy sinking age.



blanching, growing white.
tottering, shaking as if
 about to fall.

solitude, loneliness.
assuage, soften and com-
 fort.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

1. Few men have left behind them a nobler name
 than this truly great and good man. He was not
noble by birth, or great by the gifts of fortune. He
sought his nobility, and obtained his greatness in a

far different manner. His great aim was to be good, and to do good. The following account of this eminent man is taken mainly from Dr. Smiles's "Self-Help," a book which every boy and girl should read.

2. Dr. Livingstone has told the story of his own life in that modest, quiet manner which was so like the man himself. His ancestors were poor, honest Highlanders. It is said of one of them, who during his lifetime had been renowned in the district for wisdom and prudence, that, when on his death-bed, he called his children round him. He had no fortune to leave them, but he had one precious legacy which he could give,—the example of a good life. He thus spoke to those around him:—"In my lifetime I have searched most carefully through all the traditions I could find of our family, and I never could discover that there was a dishonest man among our forefathers. If, therefore, any of you or of your children should take to dishonest ways, it will not be because it runs in our blood: it does not belong to you. I leave this precept with you—Be honest."

3. At the age of ten, Livingstone was sent to work in a cotton factory near Glasgow. He did not think, as so many do, that because he had gone to work, he need not trouble himself any more about books and learning. With part of his first week's wages he bought a Latin Grammar and began to learn Latin, pursuing the study for years at a night school.

4. He had to be at his work in the factory by six o'clock in the morning, but for all that, he would work away at his lessons until midnight, unless his kind mother sent him to bed.

5. He did not study books only; some of his spare hours were spent in collecting plants, and learning something of botany. By making the best possible use of every minute, he obtained a large amount of sound and useful knowledge.

6. As he grew older he formed a strong desire to go as a missionary to the heathen, and made up his mind to obtain a medical education, that he might be the better fitted for his work.

7. But how was this to be done? The poor boy had no friends who could help him. He could trust to none but himself. He saved from his weekly wages as much as would enable him to support himself while attending classes at the University of Glasgow. These classes meet for six months during the winter, from November 1st to May 1st. For several winters he attended these classes, working during the summer as a cotton-spinner, without receiving a farthing of help from any other source.

8. So far from murmuring at this hard lot, let us hear what he himself thought of it in after years, when his name had become famous. "Looking back now at that life of toil, I cannot but feel thankful that it formed such a material part of my early education, and, were it possible, I should like to begin life over again in the same lowly style, and to pass through the same hardy training."

9. In 1840, he was sent out to South Africa as a missionary. While living among savage tribes he not only taught them, but worked with them in *digging canals*, building houses, cultivating fields, and *rearing cattle*. But the story of his great work, of his

journeyings, of his discoveries, will be best learned from his own "Missionary Travels" and his interesting "Life." He felt he was working in a good and noble cause, and he devoted to it a life of unbending perseverance, and of unceasing devotion in the service of God, to enlighten and elevate the poor ignorant people of Africa.

eminent, distinguished.

legacy, what is left by will.

ancestors, forefathers.

renowned, much talked about.

precious, valuable.

botany, science of plants.

traditions, stories handed down.

missionary, one sent out to foreign lands to preach and teach the gospel.

material, important.

med-i-cal

no-bil-i-ty

fore-fa-thers

el-e-vate

cul-ti-vat-ing

fact-o-ry

know-ledge

dis-cov-er-ies

u-ni-ver-si-ty

ed-u-ca-tion

en-light-en

per-se-ver-ance

What was the great aim of Dr. Livingstone? What was the character of his ancestors? Relate what is told of one of them on his death-bed. Where did Livingstone first go to work? What did he purchase out of his first week's wages? What else did he study besides books? Why did he wish to obtain a medical education? How did he manage to attend the classes at the University of Glasgow? What did he think of his early training in later years? Where can we learn the story of his life?



THE POOR MAN'S RICHES.

1. Poor! did you call me?
My wants are but few,
And generous Nature
Gives more than my due;
The air and the sunshine,
Fresh water and health,
And heart to enjoy them—
All these are my wealth.
2. No close-handed miser
That e'er had a hoard
Could reckon such treasure
As I can afford:
The wood in its verdure,
The stream in its flow,
Are mine in their beauty,
Wherever I go.
3. My wealth is substantial,
Although in the mart
I cannot convey it,
In whole or in part;
Yet, if I enjoy it,
What signifies more?
I'm lord of the ocean;
I'm king of the shore.
4. Wealth could procure me
But pleasure and ease:

I've both in my garden
 Beneath the green trees;
I've both in my cottage,
 My fancies to feed;
I've both in my conscience—
 What more do I need?

5. The joys that delight me
 Are free as my thought;
They're common as sunshine—
 They cannot be bought.
I've servants and minstrels,
 And boundless domains;
I've rivers and mountains,
 And forests and plains.
6. The robin's my minstrel,
 My friend and my ward;
The lark is my poet,
 The thrush is my bard.
No great prima donna,
 The pride of her hour,
Can yield me more music
 Than bird in her bower.
7. Though gold has its friendships
 That cling to it well,
Acquaintance and lovers
 Too many to tell,
Yet I, too, by myriads,
 Have friends of my own,
Who pay me sweet visits
 When I am alone.

8. All saints and apostles,
 All prophets divine,
 All sages and poets,
 Are teachers of mine—
 My friends and my teachers
 Wherever I roam,
 The guides of my spirit,
 The lights of my home!
9. And, crown of all riches,
 Far better than pelf,
 I've a true heart that loves me
 For sake of myself.
 With these and my patience,
 And strength to endure,
 My health, and my honour,
 How can I be poor?

generous, giving freely.
 verdure, greenness.
 substantial, solid.
 mart, market.
 convey, carry.
 ward, one taken care of.

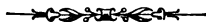
myriads, thousands.
 minstrels, singers.
 domains, lands.
 prima donna, principal
 lady singer.
 sages, wise men.

gen-er-ous
 na-ture
 en-joy
 sig-ni-fies

pro-cure
 con-science
 bound-less
 po-et

friend-ship
 ac-quaint-ance
 myr-i-ads
 pro-phets

pa-tience
 en-dure
 hon-our
 health



FRANCIS CHANTREY.

1. About one hundred years ago, in the year 1782, Francis Chantrey was born near Sheffield. His father was a poor man, and when he died little Francis helped his mother to gain a livelihood by driving a donkey laden with milk which they sold in the town.

2. When old enough he was sent to a grocer in Sheffield, that he might learn the business. One day, as he was passing a carver's shop-window, he stopped to look at the things it contained, and was seized with such a longing to be a carver that he begged to be allowed to give up grocery at once. His friends consented, and he was bound apprentice to the carver and gilder. His new master, besides being a carver in wood, sold prints and plaster models, and these Francis used to try to imitate. All his spare hours he spent in drawing and modelling, never wasting a minute; he would even sit up till midnight working away at groups and figures.

3. At last he made up his mind that he would be an artist. He gave his master all the money he had saved to release him from his engagement, and made the best of his way to London. Here he obtained work as an assistant carver that he might earn money to buy food; he spent his spare time in improving himself in modelling. Among other work, he was employed to decorate the dining-room of Mr. Rogers, the poet; and years after, when the poor struggling boy was a great man, and dining as

a guest in that very room, he used to point out to the other guests sitting round the table the work of his early years.

4. After working hard for some time he was admitted as a student at the Royal Academy. Even a defect in his sight, which must have been a serious hindrance to him, did not lessen his energy or his labours. He used to go to Sheffield from time to time to paint portraits and make busts, and once a confectioner there paid him five pounds and a pair of top boots for a portrait in oil. When in London, he had a room over a stable as a studio, and there he modelled his first original piece of sculpture for exhibition, viz., a gigantic head. Many years afterwards a friend noticed this model lying in a corner of his studio.

5. "That head," said Chantrey, "was the first thing that I did after I came to London. I worked at it in a garret with a paper cap on my head; and as I could then afford only one candle, I stuck that one in my cap, that it might move along with me, and give me light whichever way I turned.

6. Success now came in earnest to the hard-working artist. This head was so much admired by the great sculptor, Flaxman, that he recommended that Chantrey should be employed to execute the busts of four admirals for the Naval Asylum at Greenwich, and this commission naturally led to others. He executed a statue of George the Fourth, which pleased the king so much, that, patting Chantrey on the back, he said "I have reason to be obliged to you, for you have immortalized me."

7. His statue of Lady Louisa Russell holding a dove in her bosom is so wonderfully natural, that a child of three years old coming into his studio held up its little hands to the figure, and began to speak to it, thinking it was alive.

8. But perhaps the most beautiful of all his works is the monument of the Sleeping Children now in Lichfield Cathedral. When exhibited at the Royal Academy it drew tears from mothers' eyes, and children lovingly kissed the figures. Chantrey was not only clever and persevering, but kind and good; he was always ready to encourage poor and struggling artists, and even to give them a share of the money he earned; and when he died he left his large fortune for the promotion of the fine arts in his native land.

9. Four statues executed by Chantrey may be seen in London—that of William Pitt in Hanover Square; George IV. in Trafalgar Square; James Watt in Westminster Abbey; and the Duke of Wellington in front of the Royal Exchange. He was knighted by the Queen, 1837. He died November 25th, 1841, leaving many works unfinished in the hands of his friends and assistants. Chantrey was buried in a vault constructed by himself in the church of his native place, Norton in Derbyshire.

guest, visitor

studio, artist's work-room.

gigantic, very large.

Greenwich, a town on the Thames.

commission, order.

exhibited, shown.

persevering, constantly industrious.

executed, performed.

In what year was Chantrey born? How did he live with his mother? To what business was he put? What work did he prefer to the grocery? How did he spend his spare hours when he was apprenticed to the carving and gilding? What did he resolve to become? Where did he go to? Whose room was he employed to decorate? What payment did he get on one occasion for painting a portrait at Sheffield? What was his first work in sculpture? Who admired it? To what did it lead? How did George IV. express his approbation? What did the child do when it saw the statue of Lady Russell? What does that prove? Which was the most beautiful of his works? Where is it? How did he treat poor artists? Name four statues in London executed by Chantrey. When did Chantrey die? Where was he buried?









